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USSR Report

MILITARY AFFAIRS

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CONTENTS

MILITARY-POLITICAL ISSUES

Armed Forces Respond to Anti-Alcohol Campaign (Various sources, various dates)	1
Editorial on Drunkenness, Alcoholism	1
Response to Letter on Drinking, by I. Vashkevich	4
Drink Ends Pilot's Career, by V. Usoltsev	6
Construction Troops: Anti-Alcohol Conference, by N. Kusher	9
Journalists: Anti-Alcohol Conference	9
Medical Conference: Anti-Alcohol Propaganda, by A. Korneyev	10
DOSAAB on Anti-Alcohol Campaign, by Yu. Grachev	10

WARSAW PACT

Protocol on Extension of Warsaw Pact (Todor Zhivkov, et al.; VEDOMOSTI VERKHOVNOGO SOVETA SOYUZA SOVETSKIKH SOTSIALISTICHESKIKH RESPUBLIK, No 30, 24 Jul 85)	14
---	----

ARMED FORCES

Editorial: Call To Improve Troops Standard of Living (KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 1 Aug 85)	16
Letters to KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, Responses (KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, various dates)	19
Officer Disciplined for Coercion	19
Servicewomen's Clothing Supply Corrected	19
Sovkhoz Garage Pollutes River, by N. Moroz	20
Response to Criticism Criticized, by V. Kiryazov	20
Officer's Lengthy Temporary Position, by I. Smykov	22
Mistrust of Officers Criticized, by V. Kuznetsov	22
July Mailbag	24
Alcoholic WO Was Tolerated, by V. Kulakov	25

AIR/AIR DEFENSE FORCES

Flight Safety: Aviation Maintenance Problems (A. Medvedev; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 29 Jun 85)	27
Flight Safety: Junior Officers Relieved of Flight Duty (A. Ponomarev; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 18 Jul 85)	31
Flight Safety: DOSAAF Editorial Notes Shortcomings, Remedies (SOVETSKIY PATRIOT, 5 Jun 85)	35
Chief Marshal Tolubko on Combat Readiness of SRF (V. Tolubko; KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL, No 10, Mar 85).	38
Flight Safety: Deviation From Flight Planning Table (A. Karpenko; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 1 Aug 85)	49

NAVAL FORCES

Adm Smirnov on Navy Day (Nikolay Ivanovich Smirnov Interview; SOVETSKIY PATRIOT, 28 Jul 85)	53
Review: Isakov on Oceanography, Geography, Military History (N. Chaldymov; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 1 Aug 85)	57

DOSAAF

SOVETSKIY PATRIOT Institutes Raid Feature on Technical Education (V. Prokin, et al.; SOVETSKIY PATRIOT, 28 Jul 85)	59
---	----

FOREIGN MILITARY AFFAIRS

Briefs Algerian Air Force Chief Seen Off	63
---	----

AFGHANISTAN

Pakistani Instructors Said To Train Guerillas Near Urgun (SELSKAYA ZHIZN, 24 Jul 85)	64
PRAVDA on Tactics of DRA Border Units (V. Baykov; PRAVDA, 12 Aug 85)	66
'Complex' Revolutionary Process in Afghanistan (Boris Savodyan; Moscow Domestic Service, 4 Sep 85)	70
Moscow TV Reports Explosion Near Mazar-e Sharif Mosque (M. Leshchinskiy; Moscow Television Service, 15 Aug 85) .	72
Briefs Terrorists, Saboteurs 'Liquidated'	74

MILITARY-POLITICAL ISSUES

ARMED FORCES RESPOND TO ANTI-ALCOHOL CAMPAIGN

Editorial on Drunkenness, Alcoholism

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 19 May 85 p 1

[Editorial: "Affirm Sobriety"]

[Text] Under present-day conditions strict observance of the principles of communist morality and ethics and the overcoming of harmful habits and vestiges are acquiring special importance in the society of developed socialism, where the creative forces of socialist society and advantages of the Soviet way of life are being revealed more and more fully.

The Soviet people are successfully building communism, a society of harmoniously and comprehensively developed people. The party is guided here by the outlines of V. I. Lenin, who said: "It is necessary for the entire job of indoctrination, education and teaching of today's youth to be the indoctrination of morality in them."

Harmful habits and vestiges, and above all such an abnormal phenomenon as drunkenness and abuse of liquor, are a serious hindrance to our forward progress.

The press published important documents on 17 May of this year: the CPSU Central Committee Decree "Measures to Overcome Drunkenness and Alcoholism," the USSR Council of Ministers Decree "Measures to Overcome Drunkenness and Alcoholism and to Eradicate the Making of Home Brew," and a presentation of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium Ukase "Intensification of the Campaign Against Drunkenness."

As the CPSU Central Committee decree notes, the overwhelming majority of Soviet citizens are unanimous in believing that the abuse of alcohol does great economic and moral damage and that it is intolerable in our society's life. In their letters to central and local organs, they suggest taking effective steps to eradicate drunkenness, alcoholism and making home brew.

The CPSU Central Committee demands that an atmosphere of intolerance toward drunkenness and toward any violations of labor discipline and order be established in each labor collective. The Central Committee decree states that it

is to be considered absolutely inadmissible to use alcoholic beverages in enterprises, organizations, establishments and educational institutions and at banquets and receptions which are arranged.

Special emphasis is placed on strengthening anti-alcohol work in labor and training collectives, at the population's place of residence, and in dormitories, viewing it as a necessary condition for strengthening labor and production discipline and public order and for normalizing the everyday life of workers and members of their families.

Defense Society organizations can and must do a great deal within the system for communist upbringing of Soviet citizens and in the struggle against vestiges of the past, drunkenness, and infractions of labor discipline. It is the task of the committees, their lecture groups and propagandists to carry on intelligible anti-alcohol propaganda. We must see to it that instances of abuse of alcoholic beverages are completely precluded in primary, training and sports organizations.

The organizations, schools, clubs and sports sections of the Defense Society prepare technical specialists and sportsmen in technical and applied military sports. It is important to explain to those taking their first steps in technology and sports and to all boys and girls that a drop of alcohol is poison which does great damage to the health and which closes the path to sports achievements.

The newspaper SOVETSKIY PATRIOT is beginning a new rubric entitled "Battle Drunkenness!" Its pages will carry on an irreconcilable campaign against such harmful vestiges as the abuse of alcohol, infraction of labor discipline, and commission of acts which are contrary to the demands of our morality. Today an article is being published about the drunkard athlete and his protectors, and the question is raised about the incompatibility of athletic activity with the abuse of alcohol.

DOSAAB defense and sports collectives live according to a highly moral principle of "A person is friend, comrade and brother to another person." For this reason Defense Society committees and managers must strive to strengthen the indoctrinational role of collectives and make the desire of each member of the collective to keep comrades from evil deeds, and in particular from the abuse of alcoholic beverages, an immutable rule.

There are plans for an expansion of construction and reconstruction of clubs, culture palaces and clubs, and sports facilities in the 12th Five-Year Plan, especially in new urban residential areas and in the village. The task arises for DOSAAF committees in this regard to show concern even now for seeing that new DOSAAF clubs and military-technical training clubs, new shooting galleries, vehicle test areas, radio training areas, model racing areas, cinder tracks and many other sports facilities appear in the future.

In planning a further expansion of the network of technical circles and sports sections and the development of technical and applied military sports, DOSAAF committees have to take account of the fact that ministries and departments

will take additional steps to increase deliveries for trade and to expand the sale to the population of metal working and wood working tools, vehicle and engine spare parts, and all kinds of substandard and other materials needed for engaging in technical creativeness, amateur radio work and model building.

There is a major role to play for the heads of public organizations and, in the DOSAAF system, directly for committee chairmen and chiefs of DOSAAF schools, clubs and sports organizations in accomplishing the very difficult tasks of bringing up the population (especially the youth) in a spirit of high morality and ethics and of the campaign against drunkenness and alcoholism. The role of the leader's personal example--his purposefulness, composure, discipline, and self-control--is especially great.

The party requires that more rigid demands be placed on managers who abuse alcohol, who do not stop instances of drunkenness, or who avoid a direct part in the fight against this evil. If a person who is called upon to manage a collective commits deviations from the standards of morality himself, that means he is unworthy of such a high post. The party demands that managers who are addicted to liquor and who permit the arrangement of drinking bouts be relieved of their positions.

Explanatory and indoctrinational work must be strengthened in Defense Society organizations, at the same time striving to fulfill the DOSAAF Bylaws, which state that every DOSAAF member must be an example in observing labor, production and social discipline and the demands of the moral code of a builder of communism.

DOSAAF committees now are faced with the task of thinking out their capabilities and precisely planning measures aimed at indoctrinating the population, and especially the youth and future soldiers, in a spirit of communist morality and high ethics, and aimed at the campaign against drunkenness. Strict measures must be taken to stop and prevent instances of the abuse of liquor. We must condemn the practice where certain activities--competitions, runs, and the honoring of new champions and record holders--sometimes ended in a bountiful feast with the consumption of alcohol.

All the Soviet people--workers, employees, and kolkhoz members, including members of the multimillion-member Defense Society--unanimously approve and support party and government measures aimed at fighting drunkenness and alcoholism. Now it is important for every labor collective and every Soviet citizen to make their own contribution to the struggle to fulfill decrees and laws which have been adopted.

Response to Letter on Drinking

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 28 May 85 p 2

[Article by KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent Lt Col Justice I. Vashkevich: "In the Wake of a Letter: As a Warning..."]

[Text] "Dear editors! It is well known that it is a serviceman's obligation according to the regulation to keep a comrade from a bad act. That is just what Pvt Yaroslav Shvets did. He resolutely stopped the undignified behavior of comrades who were a bit tight, but he himself ended up in the guardhouse for this and his commander was warned about substandard conformity to duty. Such punishment hardly can be called just..."

As it was learned, the events in question occurred almost a year ago. Judging from the letter, they continue to trouble people, disturbing the heart with resentment and generating bewilderment. I became convinced of this after talking with many of the unit's officers.

"It is difficult to draw a correct conclusion for the future from such a punishment," said one of them who was not at all involved in that incident. "It turns out it is better simply not to notice violations than to answer later for associating with the culprits."

...At that time the circumstances were that soldiers who had been assigned to work at the post warehouse returned to the unit without a person in charge. "Will you get to the unit yourselves?" asked the warrant officer [praporshchik] who had managed them at the warehouse. "Yes sir!" And so they left, but along the way two of the party--V. Nikonorov and A. Khovrin--stepped into a bar. Their condition after this was unfortunately not noticed either at the unit KPP [traffic control post] or in the messhall for which they immediately headed. There they noisily demanded special attention and who knows how all this would have ended had it not been for the decisiveness of Pvt Shvets, who quickly quieted the ill-starred visitors to the bar.

It is important to note here that all these circumstances were scrupulously registered by an investigation conducted in the unit. Its results, with which the post military procurator agreed, are unequivocal: Pvt Shvets acted correctly and lawfully, and although they made noise, those who were inebriated simply didn't manage to do anything. But such a precise legal evaluation of the incident alas did not become the basis (either in the unit or later in the higher headquarters) for making a decision on punishing the culprits.

WO L. Gabershtok (last year he was Komsomol committee secretary) told me that Komsomol Member Shvets "didn't have to ask for trouble at all," he could have withdrawn from his drunken colleagues and "left them in peace." But when I asked just how a Komsomol member's obligation to be irreconcilable to any infractions of order and discipline should be interpreted in that case, the warrant officer replied that infractions must be reported through channels. Well, what if there is simply no time for this? Should one really leave one's irreconcilability until the next Komsomol meeting? Apparently that is so,

since at that time everyone involved in the conflict, both in the right and in the wrong, received Komsomol punishments. Those who simply observed the conflict didn't even earn a reproach.

A wave of punishments swept over the unit's officers. Even those who were on leave at that time were punished. The strictest punishment--a warning about substandard conformity to duty--was given to Capt V. Orlik, the commander of the battery in which Pvt Shvets served.

I didn't meet Valeriy Vladimirovich, but I am even glad for this. What could I ask him? About how heavy his heart was? The fact is that a rejection of his entry into the military academy followed "automatically" after the unjust punishment and it is still unclear as to whether or not the officer will be given that opportunity. I know quite well about his service. Four months before the conflict he was awarded the "Combat Merit" medal and five months after it he was given an honor scroll. He is capable of working with people and loves to do so. There have been and are no relationships among servicemen in the battery which we call nonregulation. By the way, this was also confirmed by lieutenant colonels V. Seredovich and V. Zadorozhnyy, who inspected the state of affairs in the unit hot on the heels of the conflict, as the saying goes.

I also know that Capt Orlik turned to no one in connection with the punishment he received, although he could have! But how does an officer and party member who is exacting toward himself usually reason? He always sees more deficiencies in his work than any inspector. For this reason he considers it immodest and incorrect to raise his voice in his own defense.

By the way, that it also how other officers with whom I talked reasoned concerning the punishments received. But I believe that just such a self-critical party assessment by them of their service highlights even more the unjustified nature of punishments imposed without consideration of each person's personal guilt. We read in the Disciplinary Regulation that "any disciplinary punishment as a measure of strengthening military discipline and indoctrinating servicemen must conform to the gravity of the act committed and to the degree of guilt."

"That day Capt Orlik was responsible for order in the unit," I was told by the superior who determined the measure of the officer's responsibility.

But the fact is that even that explanation does not conform to reality, to put it mildly. First of all, there is no such form of duty in the regulation. At that time the unit duty officer was Sr WO I. Regey. Secondly, even if we use the terminology customary here, then Capt Orlik was not even the so-called "responsible officer" that day. Maj N. Dundukov was performing such duties. It turns out that many officers were punished only because a "reaction" to the incident was noticeable or, in short, as a warning.

I had repeated occasion to hear such an expression during my TDY, but with varying intonation: businesslike in those who punished "as a warning" and ironic in those who were punished. The reason is that some seriously hope to prevent unpleasantness in the future in just this way, while others just didn't

understand what they had to do for this. And how could they understand when those specific persons who could have and were obligated to prevent the conflict in the messhall remained outside the bounds of the "reaction"?

Lt V. Ivanov can be said to have gotten off with a slight scare. But it was he, performing duties of the commander of the battery where Khovrin and Nikonorov served, who didn't properly organize the dispatch and return of the work party. And the names of those who were on duty at the traffic control post and the messhall on that day and even of the warrant officer who released the soldiers without a person in charge could not be determined at all. They are not mentioned in the documents and the people with whom I talked simply do not know them or don't remember them. Meanwhile, even today there is no proper supervision over the work of parties at the warehouse and sometimes there simply is neither a duty officer nor his assistants at the traffic control post.

And the question of servicemen's use of alcohol completely disappeared from the supervisors' field of view, since there just were no resulting measures for improving anti-alcohol propaganda and indoctrinating the servicemen.

Before departing from the post I learned that the punishments imposed last year, including that given Capt Orlik, had been removed "as having played an indoctrinational role." It is difficult to agree with this wording. Something absolutely inadmissible in disciplinary practice took place. Both the guilty and those in the right were placed on the same level in an attempt to give a faster account about steps taken, while the vice essentially remained unpunished.

No, even a year after the conflict in the messhall, the people in the headquarters seem not to have learned the necessary lessons from it.

Drink Ends Pilot's Career

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 18 May 85 p 4

[Article by Maj V. Usoltsev, Red Banner Volga Military District: "On Subjects of Morals: The Flight was Interrupted by a Wine Glass"]

[Text] The snowstorm died down toward morning, the sky cleared and scheduled flights began in the regiment. Fighters took off and melted away in the distance one after the other. It was impossible not to admire the swift take-off of the missile-armed aircraft, and V. Perevedentsev looked at the aircraft from the window of his apartment. He recognized a familiar hand when the next fighter took off: "Dorokhov has taken off." Valeriy could recognize almost any pilot in the regiment from characteristic signs of the take-off and landing, and he faultlessly picked out the former squadron commander from a hundred aces. Maj Dorokhov flew confidently and beautifully! Many young pilots in the regiment tried to emulate him. By the way, some also tried to emulate Perevedentsev in flight.

Valeriy's heart ached from the realization that no one would be coming to him for advice any more and that he never again would feel the joyous moment of flight in a supersonic missile-armed aircraft.

...He loved and took pride in the profession of military pilot. That is probably why he spared neither time nor effort to learn it to perfection. First in flight school and then in the regiment as well, comrades didn't cease to be surprised at his persistence and determination: he was always at work and always with textbooks. He longed for the simulator as did no one else. And he had a strong will that could be envied!

Perevedentsev himself didn't conceal that he wanted to become a real master of combat application and the equal of the best pilots in the regiment such as Maj A. Dorokhov, Lt Col V. Yeprintsev and Lt Col M. Osipov.

Be that as it may, he was the first of the classmates to become a first class military pilot and he invariably accomplished all flight assignments with outstanding quality. When they began to retrain for the variable geometry wing fighter, Perevedentsev was among the first to earn the right to a solo take-off.

And later there was an instance where they began talking about him as a real hero.

The assignment which Officer Perevedentsev was carrying out at that time was a customary one of intercepting an airborne target. Nothing presaged trouble: the altimeter needles turned rapidly, counting off the meters, and the numerous instruments registered stable operation of all systems. But suddenly the aircraft was shaken as strongly as if it was rolling along a cobblestone pavement.

Later it would be learned that a little hatch not locked by the technician had fallen into the air intake, but that was later. During the flight the pilot functioned as the instructions prescribed. He quickly shut down the engine and performed other operations necessary in this situation while simultaneously turning the aircraft toward the home field.

The altitude melted away before his eyes, as they say in such instances, despite the fact that he placed the wing in a minimum sweep and set the optimum gliding speed.

"I will land at my own airfield!" said the pilot firmly.

No, he wasn't afraid of ejecting, since he had done this repeatedly in the simulator. Valeriy simply decided long ago that should a special incident arise in flight he would abandon the aircraft only after being sure that it was impossible to save it. But now the aircraft still was heeding control and the altitude should be enough to reach the landing strip. Moreover, there were densely populated areas beneath the wing...

The pilot continued to fight for the aircraft's life and led the mortal danger away from people. The aviators who saw this landing believed that it was impossible to do it better than Perevedentsev had done. He was honored according to his merits, as they say. Party member Officer Perevedentsev was commended by the senior commander for the courage and high professional expertise displayed in the difficult flight situation, the district newspaper told about

him in detail and the pilot's picture was placed in the "Best People of the Regiment" display. There was also an advancement in service to the position of squadron chief of staff.

Figuratively speaking, first class military pilot Capt V. Perevedentsev was on the take-off at that time. Without exaggeration, he had everything a military man needs for further growth: the fame of a skilled airman, the respect of colleagues, and prospects...

Suddenly everything went out the window. No, outwardly Perevedentsev didn't change in the least. As before, he was simple and courteous in dealing with colleagues. He continued to receive "fives" for the performance of flight assignments. But with all this, people began to notice that Capt Perevedentsev was no longer the same person. He seemed to have gone from the sunlight into the shadows. Such a comparison occurred to colleagues more than once. They noticed that the officer no longer worked in the classrooms and the simulator with the previous enthusiasm. They were left only to remember the last time they had seen the fervent gleam in the captain's eyes which revealed the desire to win an impending clash against the air "enemy." It so happened that all subsequent flights after the victory over the unforeseen situation began to appear too commonplace to the pilot. "Unworthy of the level of my expertise," as he himself once expressed it jokingly. But later it turned out that this was not at all a joke. The desire to stand out among colleagues in some manner flared up in him after that memorable flight. He wanted to do something so that they would again begin talking about him at the top of their voices, but the occasion didn't present itself, while the one long ago already had begun to be forgotten...

On meeting Capt Perevedentsev one morning the deputy squadron commander for political affairs was taken aback by surprise: the chief of staff strongly smelled of alcohol.

"Why are you in that shape, Valeriy Ivanovich?"

"I had a little bit yesterday out of sorrow..." was all Capt Perevedentsev found to answer.

Unfortunately no one began to look into what kind of "sorrow" had fallen on the captain. The squadron didn't fly that day and the fact of the officer's appearance for duty in such a state didn't go beyond the subunit.

But the incident was repeated some time later, and then again and again... Official matters gradually began to assume secondary importance for Perevedentsev. Negligence and carelessness appeared in the performance of official duties. The officer would get irritated at the slightest excuse. It seemed he lived only for one thing: for the workday to end as quickly as possible. It got to the point where he had to be held accountable to the party and he was removed from flight duty after another libation.

Capt Perevedentsev didn't fly for a long time. It was apparent from everything that it was no simple matter for him to endure this. The officer became

gaunt-looking and taciturn. He would invariably leave the room immediately on just hearing the start of talk about flying. Such behavior didn't go unnoticed. Some assumed that the strict measures of pressure had played their indoctrinational role and supposedly it was time to revise their opinion about the officer. And when Capt Perevedentsev wrote the next request to be restored to flight duty the senior commander gave the okay for him to go before the medical commission.

While the authoritative commission was deciding the question of the officer's admission to flight duty the captain continued to "quietly" get drunk, concealing this from friends and his wife. But murder will out, as the saying goes... Valeriy Perevedentsev had to part with the sky forever: he was released from the ranks of the Armed Forces.

...The reserve captain continues to live in the aviators' military compound. It is no simple matter to leave here for home, for he was brought into aviation by a childhood dream which his parents supported. How could he now look them in the eyes? And it is not easy for him to live here as well: the roar of aircraft reminds him each time about his own take-off interrupted by the wine glass.

Construction Troops: Anti-Alcohol Conference

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 5 Jun 85 p 4

[Article by Col N. Kusher: "Attention and Concern for Servicemen's Everyday Life"]

[Text] A seminar of propagandists, the ideological aktiv and medical workers of military construction units was held, devoted to questions of implementing demands of the CPSU Central Committee Decree "Measures for Overcoming Drunkenness and Alcoholism."

Seminar participants heard a number of lectures and briefings on improving anti-alcohol propaganda and organizing full-fledged, healthy leisure time for the personnel, and they exchanged experience in propaganda work in the campaign against drunkenness.

Officers of the Main Military Procuracy and of the USSR Ministry of Defense Central Military Medical Directorate participated in the seminar's work. Seminar results were summed up by Maj Gen M. Simakov, first deputy chief of the political directorate of military construction units.

Journalists: Anti-Alcohol Conference

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 18 May 85 p 5

[Article: "Conference of Military Journalists"]

[Text] A conference of heads of central military press organs was held in the Main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy, where there was a

discussion of tasks of the mass media stemming from resolutions of the April 1985 CPSU Central Committee Plenum. There was also an examination of the question of military press work to fulfill the party Central Committee Decree "Measures for Overcoming Drunkenness and Alcoholism."

Lt Gen D. Volkogonov, deputy chief of the Main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy, spoke at the conference.

Medical Conference: Anti-Alcohol Propaganda

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 15 Jun 85 p 2

[Article by A. Korneyev, Order of Lenin Transbaikalian Military District: "They Exchanged Experience"]

[Text] A practical seminar of troop physicians was held here for the first time. It was opened by district commander Col Gen S. Postnikov.

The troop physicians shared experience of work to improve the personnel's everyday and medical support and to strengthen anti-alcohol propaganda. Practical classes were held in the facilities of Unit "X."

DOSAAB on Anti-Alcohol Campaign

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 26 May 85 p 2

[Article by Yu. Grachev under the rubric "BattleDrunkenness!": "In the Clutches of the 'Green Snake'"]

[Text] Back in ancient times Pythagoras stated that drunkenness is an exercise in insanity. But these "exercises" are not inoffensive. They involve serious consequences. On falling into the clutches of the "green snake," a person ceases to control his acts and he commits actions which are not subject to logical explanation.

Yes, the use of intoxicating drinks is madness. The circumstance that the problem of drunkenness and alcoholism has become more acute in the country in recent years cannot help but cause serious concern. It also concerns a number of DOSAAF committees and training and sports organizations.

As emphasized in the CPSU Central Committee Decree "Measures to Overcome Drunkenness and Alcoholism," the reason here lies in poor propaganda of sobriety and an insufficient campaign against drunkenness. It is true that people are trying to set traps for the "green snake" in places, but they either have holes or they are too weak.

It cannot be said that the Novosibirsk Obkom of DOSAAF has not fought the lovers of alcohol. They have been given punishment in orders and they have been admonished at sessions of the presidium buro. Appropriate letters and telegrams flew to the Society's gorkoms, raykoms and training organizations in the oblast, but instances of drinking bouts during work time did not cease.

The paper storms made menacing noises and once there was a clap of thunder. Several school chiefs, all of them great admirers of alcohol, were dismissed over a short period of time. V. Larin, former chief of the Novosibirsk Air Club who drank heavily before the eyes of committee heads, also fell into the category of revellers.

Experience showed that the vacuum in the work of eliminating drunkenness and alcoholism is instantaneously filled by the makers of home brew and liquor profiteers. But the biggest trouble is that the snares of the intoxicant are drawing in more and more people. Young people suffer especially from this.

With what pain in the heart one looks at a young lad flushed with intoxicating liquor. Of course, he heard at one time that vodka and wine are poison and that it is harmful to drink, but he didn't hold out before temptation.

Medical personnel state that aversion to alcohol should not simply be suggested, but instilled, and an example of sobriety set by one's own conduct. Unfortunately it often occurs the other way around in life. One manager calls on subordinates not to drink alcohol but the next thing you know, he himself tips back glass after glass somewhere at a banquet "because of the occasion." The wise man said it correctly that those who give advice but who themselves do not follow it are like road signs which only indicate the road but do not go along it.

B. Gavrilov, former chief of the Chekhov Technical Sports Club, repeatedly called on subordinates not to be carried away by vodka and wine. There was even a poster hanging in the club with the inscription: "A drunk at the wheel is a criminal." Those were empty words. No one believed either the chief's profuse talk or the poster's truth.

On a fine May day Gavrilov assembled his close subordinates and set off for the nearest populated point in a training vehicle. The boon companions settled themselves down comfortably and the revelry began. Wine flowed like a river and neighbor treated neighbor. There was no telling how long they made merry, but then N. Baburin, a master of production training in driving, shoved away from the table and said: "Let's go home."

The merry company didn't go on foot, of course, but decided to take a fast ride. The very inebriated Baburin took the wheel and the passenger vehicle began weaving down the route. It rushed toward a turn at high speed and here is where the "green snake" decided to get even for everything. The drunken driver lost control and the vehicle plowed into roadside trees.

Each time one encounters such facts, one and the same question arises: Why? Why is it necessary to get drunk and why take the wheel in an inebriated state? Why dope one's awareness? And one automatically arrives at the conclusion that drunkenness is the very same as heavy weights on one's legs which don't allow one to get out of the fusel oil swamp.

Let's ponder the figure: almost 30 percent of traffic accidents in DOSAAF organizations are committed by people in an inebriated state.

The reasons for drunkenness often are the absence of control and absence of a sense of responsibility for an assigned job in appointed persons, and extreme lack of discipline. To this also can be added the double-dyed egotism of those thirsting for intoxicating libations. They don't think of those around them, only that they should have a good time.

It was probably these considerations which guided V. Gusarov, master of production training in driving at the Tikhoretsk Automobile School, in planning a fishing trip with comrades at work. He persuaded the school chief to assign transportation without the knowledge of the Krasnodar Kraykom of DOSAAF.

The head of the training organization lacked the firmness to refuse the fishing enthusiasts. A vehicle was assigned in violation of existing order and Gusarov and company were in the lap of nature. They found another "pool" in place of a river. In short, as the traffic accident report noted, "they organized the drinking of liquor." As a result two persons didn't return home from the so-called fishing trip.

Rumors began. The culprits repented and gave excuses, they consoled relatives of the victims, and their hearts were in torment. Figuratively speaking, only the "green snake" which did its black deed was quiet.

Belinskiy said that only savages get drunk and overeat. I wouldn't like to draw such an analogy with Ye. Petrov, driver at the Shuyskoye Automobile School, but the crimes he committed in a drunken state can be called nothing other than savagery.

Taking advantage of a lack of supervision, Petrov didn't arrive at the garage after making a trip. As it was later learned, he dropped in to see acquaintances, who greeted him well and treated him properly to liquor.

What will be will be, goes a popular Russian saying. And so it happened. Petrov didn't see the reinforced concrete post at a turn with eyes clouded by vodka and knifed into it. The vehicle was totaled and the driver has been held criminally liable.

The accomplished facts are irreversible. Health cannot be returned to those who received serious injuries. The emotional injuries the loss inflicted on people near and dear cannot be healed. The everlasting spot of shame cannot be wiped away from those who committed the crime. Yes, that is so. But each year Defense Society schools and clubs graduate thousands of vehicle drivers, tractor operators, bulldozer operators, truck crane operators and motorcyclists; don't let the "green snake" crawl across the road in front of them.

Party and government decrees outline steps to strengthen the campaign against drunkenness and alcoholism. In particular, an RSFSR Supreme Soviet Presidium ukase provided for liability for driving means of transportation in a state of drunkenness. Those who love to drink and drive will be subject to heavy fines and will be held criminally liable.

The measures unquestionably are strict, but they are just and profoundly humane. They are backed by a categorical campaign for sobriety and for establishing healthy principles in labor and everyday life. This is no short-term campaign, but a component part of patriotic indoctrination and of the work of all public organizations.

Sobriety must become and invariably will become the standard of our life.

6904

CSO: 1801/292

WARSAW PACT

PROTOCOL ON EXTENSION OF WARSAW PACT

Moscow VEDOMOSTI VERKHOVNOGO SOVETA SOYUZA SOVETSKIKH SOTSIALISTICHESKIKH
RESPUBLIK in Russian No 30 (2312) 24 Jul 85 pp 475-476

[Section One, paragraph 553, Protocol on Extension of Effective Period of Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance signed in Warsaw on 14 May 1955, signed by Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of Bulgarian Communist Party Central Committee, chairman of People's Republic of Bulgaria State Council, for the People's Republic of Bulgaria; Janos Kadar, general secretary of Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party, for the Hungarian People's Republic; Erich Honecker, general secretary of Socialist Unity Party of Germany Central Committee, chairman of the German Democratic Republic Council of State, for the German Democratic Republic; Wojciech Jaruzelski, first secretary of Polish United Workers' Party, chairman of Polish People's Republic Council of Ministers, for the Polish People's Republic; Nicolae Ceausescu, general secretary of Romanian Communist Party, president of Socialist Republic of Romania, for the Socialist Republic of Romania; M. S. Gorbachev, general secretary of Communist Party of the Soviet Union Central Committee, for the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics; and Gustav Husak, general secretary of Czechoslovak Communist Party Central Committee, president of Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, for the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic]

[Text] States parties to the Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance--the People's Republic of Bulgaria, Hungarian People's Republic, German Democratic Republic, Polish People's Republic, Socialist Republic of Romania, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Czechoslovak Socialist Republic--decided to sign this Protocol and agreed to the following:

Article 1

The Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance signed in Warsaw 14 May 1955 remains in force for the next 20 years. It will remain in force for another ten years for the Contracting Parties which do not deliver to the Government of the Polish People's Republic a statement denouncing the Treaty one year before the expiration of this date.

Article 2

This Protocol is subject to ratification. Instruments of ratification will be delivered to the custody of the Polish People's Republic.

The Protocol will enter into force on the day the last instrument of ratification is delivered for custody. The Government of the Polish People's Republic will inform the other states parties to the Treaty of the delivery for custody of each instrument of ratification.

Done in Warsaw 26 April 1985 in one copy in the Bulgarian, Hungarian, German, Polish, Romanian, Russian and Czech languages, with all texts having identical force. Certified copies of this Protocol will be sent to all other Contracting Parties to the Protocol by the Government of the Polish People's Republic.

6904

CSO: 1801/293

ARMED FORCES

EDITORIAL: CALL TO IMPROVE TROOPS STANDARD OF LIVING

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 1 Aug 85 p 1

[Editorial: "Improve Troops' Life"]

[Text] Attention to everything concerning man and his work, material well-being and leisure time is a key issue of our party's policy. "The CPSU sees the supreme meaning of an acceleration of the country's social and economic development," emphasized Comrade M. S. Gorbachev in a report at the April 1985 Central Committee Plenum, "as steadily increasing the people's welfare step by step, improving all aspects of the life of Soviet citizens, and creating favorable conditions for harmonious development of the individual."

These party aims also relate wholly and fully to the Armed Forces. The everyday life of troops is an important factor in their combat readiness. People's working ability, mood, health and, in the final account, their successes in combat training and service, depend to no small extent on how they are housed, fed, dressed and how they rest after strenuous military labor.

Much is being done in the Army and Navy to improve the material, medical, financial and exchange/everyday services support and cultural services for the personnel. Today this work represents one of the directions in servicemen's socialist competition for a worthy greeting to the 27th CPSU Congress. Preparations for the All-Services Conference on Improving the Troops' Standard of Living and the participation of units [soyadineniye and chast'], military establishments and organizations in the All-Services Competitive Review for Best Post in Material and Everyday Conditions dedicated to the 40th anniversary of the Soviet people's victory in the Great Patriotic War are giving the work specific purpose and businesslike efficiency.

For example, a number of garrisons and military posts in the Carpathian Military District have achieved noticeable results in improving many aspects of the everyday lives of servicemen and their families. The plans for housing and cultural-everyday services construction are being fulfilled here more successfully than in other places, the barracks and housing resources are being preserved better, subsidiary farms are being developed, and much has been done for proper resolution of administrative matters right in the companies and batteries. This is a result of determined efforts by unit and subunit commanders, chiefs of services and chiefs of billeting organs; it is the result of

attention to servicemen's everyday lives on the part of political bodies and party organizations; and the result of active participation in resolving pressing problems of the people on post. Questions on the organization of the everyday life and leisure time of servicemen and their families are examined regularly at sessions of the district military council and the party-administrative aktiv and at conferences in garrisons and military posts. Decisions on the matters are distinguished by thoughtfulness and substantiation. Each planned activity is supported to the proper extent by financial and physical resources and the work force and its fulfillment is strictly monitored.

Unfortunately it is not everywhere that a businesslike approach is seen to the accomplishment of difficult and many-sided problems of improving the troops' everyday life. This is indicated in particular by letters which come to KRASNAYA ZVEZDA. The deficiencies which they report are explained most often not by some "objective" reasons, but by the negligence and lack of administrative abilities of very specific officials. The work of messhalls and warehouses, and housekeeping in the subunits is not checked for a long time in some units. There is no precision in the work of persons on the daily detail at everyday services facilities. Questions of providing servicemen with everything authorized are not always in the field of view of party organizations and people's controllers. There are many garrisons and military posts where women's councils and commissions for public supervision of the work of exchange and everyday services enterprises are inactive.

Such a situation usually develops where attention to the troops' everyday life has let up on the part of senior supervisors and political bodies. As recent inspections showed in the Turkestan, Leningrad, Moscow and some other military districts, it was for this very reason that the work of improving living conditions of servicemen and their families was practically neglected in a number of garrisons. Suffice it to say that on-the-spot inspections of the state of affairs in the Turkestan Military District were not held at all for a long time.

Proper distribution and use of available financial and physical assets is of great importance for improving the troops' everyday life. It also happens, however, that the attention of appropriate chiefs of services is given to one and the same military posts, which are declared exemplary from year to year, and they simply forget about the others. That happened, for example, with Air Garrison "X" of the Moscow Military District, where no funds at all were allocated for a long time for its civic improvements. It is important to place a barrier in the path of irrational expenditure of supplies and funds and to carry on a broader struggle for economy and thrift.

During days of summer combat training servicemen spend most of the time in training centers, at training areas, at airfields and on sea deployments. That means the principal efforts to improve the servicemen's everyday life also must be concentrated right here. Special attention should be given to the organization of meals, bath and laundry services for the servicemen, and timely medical assistance. Where military proficiency is being forged, the mobile clubs and reading rooms must function excellently and newspapers and letters must arrive here on time.

A very great deal depends on subunit commanders and first sergeants in organizing the personnel's everyday life and leisure time. It is important that they make out requests promptly and correctly for various kinds of allowances and monitor each serviceman's actual receipt of what he is authorized. It is also in the subunit that much can be done to organize servicemen's leisure time in order for each of them to be able to satisfy his spiritual and cultural needs and develop abilities for artistic and technical creativeness.

The improvement of troops' everyday life must be constantly in the field of view of party, trade union and Komsomol organizations. Women's councils, housing committees, and officer dormitory councils are obligated to make a substantial contribution to civic improvements of military posts and the organization of leisure time. Today this task is closely connected with the surmounting of such negative phenomena as empty pastimes and drunkenness.

Concern for the troops' everyday life is concern for improving the combat readiness of units and subunits. Commanders, chiefs of services, political bodies, party organizations and the Army and Navy public are called upon to take advantage of every opportunity to provide servicemen with everything necessary for productive labor and full-fledged rest.

6904

CSO: 1801/293

ARMED FORCES

LETTERS TO KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, RESPONSES

Officer Disciplined for Coercion

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 6 Jul 85 p 2

[Article under the rubric "Following KRASNAYA ZVEZDA Coverage": "Where a Lack of Principle Led"]

[Text] An article by Col A. Belousov by that title was published on 16 April. It again criticized Col E. Yashagin, the commander of Unit "X," who didn't draw correct conclusions from the newspaper's first critical article. Moreover, he forced some subordinates to sign letters to the editors with an unsubstantiated refutation of facts.

As the editors were told by the deputy chief of the district political directorate, the newspaper's coverage was deemed proper and timely. By decision of the party committee of the district political directorate, Party Member E. Yashagin was given a strict reprimand with an entry in his record for nonparty behavior, for doing moral damage to subordinates' indoctrination, and for a nonself-critical and unprincipled reaction to criticism in the press.

Party members who showed no principle in signing refutations known to be false were held liable by the party. The newspaper's coverage was studied with supervisory personnel of the large unit [soyedineniye], with chiefs of combat arms and services and with the party aktiv. The unit command element and political department were given help in improving the work style.

Unfortunately, the response says nothing about whether Col Yashagin remains on active military duty or has been recommended for release to the reserve, as the editors were previously informed.

Servicewomen's Clothing Supply Corrected

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 13 Jul 85 p 2

[Article under rubric "Following KRASNAYA ZVEZDA Coverage": "Violators Against Their Will"]

[Text] That was the title of a letter from Sr Sgt Z. Pekanova published on 9 June. It told of deficiencies in provision of military clothing to

servicewomen. As the editors were informed by Col. M. Khrenov, acting chief of the USSR Ministry of Defense Central Clothing Directorate, an on-the-spot check established that the facts presented in the letter were confirmed.

This unit's servicewomen presently are fully supplied with ready-to-wear articles of clothing. The TsVU [Central Clothing Directorate] has established constant supervision over the servicewomen's timely and complete provision of individual clothing and equipment.

Sovkhoz Garage Pollutes River

Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 19 Jul 85 p 2

[Letter to editors from Sr Lt (Res) N. Moroz, state fish conservation inspector, Kamchatka Oblast: "The River Begs for Protection"]

[Text] The location and river which will be discussed are not only picturesque, they are unique. Back in olden times people named the river Krasnaya [Red]. When the fish come here to spawn the water really sparkles with patches of red. In short, it is fully natural that this river is listed on the appropriate register as a first category reservoir and is under strict protection. The protection unfortunately is necessary, and not just against poachers.

The military sovkhoz where Capt 3d Rank V. Pavlov is the chief is located in the riverside zone of our beauty. It is not the first year that there has been correspondence between the sovkhoz management and our fish conservation inspectorate. The fact is that a sovkhoz garage is located right on the river bank. Large discharges of oil products are constantly being identified on its grounds and they easily get into the river with melt waters and rain. The same thing also happens on the grounds of the repair shop. Mineral fertilizers also are often stored near the river. More than 120 tons of them were located there in bags in the open during one of the inspections. The fertilizers were being washed away and running down to the river under the effect of rain.

Here is one other detail about the sovkhoz management's attitude toward observing environmental protection laws. Many warehouses, wells and intake devices are being built without agreement with appropriate services, and so our correspondence folders grow and the situation isn't changing.

Moreover, our inspectorate workers have drawn up proposals to eliminate deficiencies and sent them to the sovkhoz, but we just haven't received an answer.

Response to Criticism Criticized

Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 19 Jul 85 p 2

[Article by KRSNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent Lt Col V. Kiryazov: "Returning to What was Printed: An Answer Written for Form Only"]

[Text] "But What is the Return?" was the title of a critical article published in KRSNAYA ZVEZDA on 19 May 1985. It concerned the fact that

innovation and invention work in some units of the SGV [Northern Group of Forces] was in oblivion while the tank training unit continued to be praised, recognized in reports and awarded certificates for constant leadership in technical creativeness out of inertia. A complete indifference to innovators' problems also had become established in another unit about which the newspaper wrote. Lieutenant colonels A. Ponomarenko and M. Zubkov, the inventions and innovation commission chairmen, as well as Capt V. Plaksenko, senior officer for inventions in the Northern Group of Forces, were criticized for this.

The newspaper coverage was characterized by the group command element as timely and objective. Appropriate supervisors were told to take vigorous steps to remedy deficiencies noted in the article, but over two months have gone by and no perceptible changes have occurred at those places. The editors received a response signed by Capt Plaksenko in which no specific action is apparent behind general phrases ("thanks for attention to our deficiencies," and so on). A check of the response showed that it was written with excessive haste and the measures for remedying deficiencies which it named were taken out of thin air.

I won't begin to quote the full content of this response. I will merely note that what is set forth in it would conform more to the truth if the particle "not" is placed before every verb. It is perplexing as to why the heads of the service in which Comrade Plaksenko is on the staff assigned the person who was criticized to compile a response to the editors.

The impression forms that the service paid no attention at all to the second part of the article which discusses technical creativeness in Training Unit "X," which at one time was regarded as the lawmaker of innovative thinking but which later withdrew to the rear guard. Members of the inventions commission made excuses in embarrassment: "There were no instructions to react or give a response. It's the first time there has been criticism; you can't remember everything." It turns out that the people here didn't react to the criticism at all.

It says in the response that the PRASNAYA ZVEZDA article was discussed by the party committee of the unit where Officer A. Ponomarenko serves and that necessary steps were taken. This conforms to reality. There was a strict, unbiased discussion at an expanded session of the party committee (it is true that Capt Plaksenko, who was in the unit at this time, refused to attend it). Many reproaches were addressed to Lt Col Ponomarenko, and they were also addressed to higher comrades. The minutes note many measures, but time is passing and changes still haven't been observed.

Maj V. Gavrushenko, deputy tank battalion commander for technical affairs who spoke at the party committee session, remarked bitterly: "It has become the rule that we are given unscheduled work from higher headquarters in the hours set aside for activities of the circles. Measures to improve the personnel's technical competence are being disrupted and this damps their ardor and generates indifference." Isn't it time to demand a strict accounting of those guilty of this? Initiative, innovation and the search for new forms of personnel training represent a valuable reserve for forward progress, and no one is permitted to ignore this.

Officer's Lengthy Temporary Position

Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 20 Jul 85 p 2

[Letter to editors by Lt I. Smykov: "In a Temporary Position"]

[Text] Dear editors, my first step in service didn't come about, and not through my fault. I would like to tell how it all happened.

Last year, as a graduate of the Stavropol Higher Military Aviation School for Pilots and Navigators imeni Mar Avn V. A. Sudets, I arrived in the unit and learned that the position to which I had been sent was occupied by another officer. I was temporarily appointed acting chief of a ground controlled approach system shift. That is how my service as a "temporary" began. It was only after three months that my commander, Maj N. Gladyshev, announced: "The order for transfer to a position in your specialty has been assigned. Wait."

But time passed and there was still no excerpt from the order. I had to turn to higher headquarters and it was only in late June of this year I learned that I would be transferred to a position in my specialty. This of course pleased me.

But the fact is that almost a year has passed, during which I lost the skills acquired in school, served in a temporary position, and lived in a hotel with my family. Almost no one took an interest in how my service was going or how everyday life was arranged.

I would like to believe that everything has been left behind. I will try to get on my feet as quickly as possible at the new place of duty, but I would also like to hope that such an incident will not be repeated with other young officers.

Mistrust of Officers Criticized

Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 27 Jul 85 p 2

[Letter to editors from Lt Col V. Kuznetsov, Southern Group of Forces: "That Same Grigoryev..."]

[Text] I arrived at the moving target tank gunnery range where the company commanded by Sr Lt A. Baranov was to perform a firing exercise. I saw the following picture. Sr Lt Baranov was moving from vehicle to vehicle adjusting the weapons, while platoon commander Lt A. Rezanov was tracing something on the ground to one side with a little stick. By the way, his subordinates were to perform the exercise in the first run. Just why wasn't the young officer on the job?

"The company commander doesn't trust me," explained Lt Rezanov with embarrassment.

"Yes, my check is more reliable," confirmed Sr Lt Baranov. "Rezanov might omit something through inexperience and you can no longer correct it during the firing..."

It probably was by chance, but following the adjustment of weapons by Baranov himself a malfunction of the electric firing gear was discovered on one tank and there was a stoppage in firing on another. If we think about it, however, such deficiencies are easily explainable. The company commander considerably complicated his task by removing the platoon commander from the job. The adjustment was made at a faster pace, which means less thoroughly, while the platoon commander would have had enormously more time for this.

Well, what if the very same thing would have happened after an adjustment made by Lt Rezanov? Of course there would be serious cause to speak of the deficiencies in the officer's professional training and to ponder the effectiveness of command training in the unit. And the young officer himself would have prepared more thoroughly for the next firing by filling out gaps in knowledge and skills.

Where am I taking this discussion? To the point that there is nothing more erroneous or even more harmful in working with young officers than substituting for them, infringing on their independence, and mistrusting them. It is difficult to avoid mistakes in a time of development, but people also learn from bitter experience.

Mistrust sometimes takes on ugly forms. Once it was necessary to send a small team of specialists to the training center from the battalion where I served until quite recently. I decided to place an energetic and responsible platoon commander in charge. Suddenly I received instructions from above to place one of my deputies in charge. A tradition had formed in the neighboring unit that officers in the rank of at least major were placed in charge of buses making trips to and from the post. Why? Because once a bus where a senior lieutenant was the vehicle commander had an accident. It was decided to take out insurance for all time.

I write these lines with the face of Lt A. Grigoryev before me. He came to us after military school and left a good impression on everyone. But once, safety measures were violated in a demonstration class in weapon training being given by the lieutenant. Nothing happened, but still... The lieutenant was held responsible, which is fully just, but they ceased to trust him. A short, evil tag was placed on the officer: "That same Grigoryev..." It is well that a thoughtful supervisor who was circumspect in his decisions and conclusions showed up in the lieutenant's career. He broke the atmosphere of mistrust. Grigoryev once was assigned as acting company commander and everyone saw that he was a skilled organizer and a person dedicated to duty.

I am writing this letter during days when the question is being keenly raised about a supervisor's responsibility for his assigned sector. A young officer also is a supervisor and he must be taught the correct work style and performance of the entire range of duties assigned him by the regulation patiently and in a party manner. There must be no place for mistrust or substitution in this work.

2 October 1985

July Mailbag

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 3 Aug 85 p 2

[Article: "KRASNAYA ZVEZDA Mail"]

[Text] The editors received 9,884 letters from readers in July 1985, and 479 of them were published in the newspaper. There were 548 responses to KRASNAYA ZVEZDA coverage.

The editorial mail of the past month varies both in geography and in the problems raised by readers, but it has one distinguishing feature. It is the deep, unremitting interest of the authors of many letters in materials of the 1985 CPSU Central Committee Plenum, of the CPSU Central Committee conference on acceleration of scientific-technical progress, and of the 3d Session of the USSR Supreme Soviet. Soviet servicemen declare their unanimous support of the party's domestic and foreign policy and they are applying all effort and energy to achieve new successes in military labor and in improving troop combat readiness.

The readers' letters tell how socialist competition for a worthy greeting to the 27th CPSU Congress is going in the units and aboard ships. The personnel are improving their combat proficiency with great enthusiasm and are making effective use of each minute of training time in the summer. "The company commanded by Capt S. Budilkin has been outstanding for a long while," reports Maj A. Novikov. "It is also the leader in competition today. The personnel again demonstrated increased combat proficiency in recent field problems."

The reports of other readers mesh with this letter. Many examples are given of the close relationship of ideological and political indoctrination work in the units and aboard ships with organization of the training process and with the personnel's active campaign for the thrifty and rational use of electrical energy, fuels and lubricants, construction materials and other supplies, and for a thrifty attitude toward the people's property. Gds Lt Col G. Gesser, Capt L. Shumakov, WO [Praporshchik] N. Apanasenko and others write about this in particular.

Meanwhile readers direct attention to certain facts of oversimplification and indulgences in training and a formal attitude toward the organization of socialist competition. For example, Lt M. Fedorov's letter contains the following lines: "Our subunit again, as it did last year, pledged to become outstanding. But will we keep our word and will our wish become reality? I can't give a convincing answer to this question, and there are reasons for this. Take the planning of personnel training. It has not been worked out precisely to this date. Classes at the training area were disrupted because of this, and another time the platoon was forced to engage in fatigue duties instead of the scheduled training."

This letter unfortunately is not alone in the mail. Sr Sgt K. Yakovenko ponders competition in the unit with the very same concern. Two companies are living under the same roof. Summer has crossed the equator but the neighbors

2 October 1985

just haven't gotten around to meet, to take an interest in each others' affairs and successes, to analyze deficiencies and to plan ways of remedying them together. Moreover, competition results have not been summed up at all for two or three weeks in the subunit where the author of the letter is serving. The people don't know what evaluation their military labor is receiving.

Another topic of no small importance which is troubling the readers is the strengthening of military discipline and regulation order in lagging subunits. In their letters they try to understand why a company or platoon which cannot get rid of various infractions of the order of the day and where some experienced soldiers have no respectful attitude toward young soldiers is next door to an outstanding, close-knit collective. And they name the reasons engendering these and other negative phenomena and acts.

Capt V. Moiseyev's letter causes some alarm. "Our party organization examined the personal file of Party Member B. Yemelyanov," he writes. "He was punished severely for a predilection for liquor and undignified behavior in a public place. But did we clarify the reasons for the young officer's moral degradation completely? Yemelyanov is single and lives in a dormitory. How does he and other residents make use of free time, for example? How do they spend their leisure time? What are the everyday living conditions and microclimate in the dormitory? When was the commander and political officer here last? The party meeting didn't get an answer to these and other questions. They were simply ignored. But all this should be known without fail and urgent steps taken to improve living conditions and leisure time not only in the dormitory, but on the entire post as well."

The letter's author is unquestionably correct.

Alcoholic WO was Tolerated

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 3 Aug 85 p 2

[Letter to editors from Capt 3d Rank V. Kulakov: "Chief Boatswain's Mate With a Bribe"]

[Text] I was prompted to write this letter by an unpleasant event. Recently WO [Michman] Yu. Gudkov, chief boatswain's mate aboard an ocean minesweeper, was released to the reserve for systematic drunkenness. The chief boatswain's mate with a predilection for liquor was a great deal of trouble for the command element of the ship and unit and for his colleagues. His misdeeds had to be examined by a comrade's court of honor of warrant officers three times and each time Gudkov vowed to give up drinking and to begin serving conscientiously, but alas... He would immediately forget about this at the sight of a wine glass.

In general it was already clear long ago that Gudkov hardly would be successfully re-educated, but then why did they tolerate his pranks for so long? Here is where I have to mention one paradox. On the one hand the warrant officer's behavior was condemned by all those around him, but on the other hand the minesweeper crew tacitly believed that in some situations Gudkov was simply irreplaceable: he was reputed to be a go-getter, as the saying goes, capable when

necessary of resolving any supply matter by greasing the palm of whomever necessary.

For example, I recall an instance where for a number of reasons difficulties arose aboard the minesweeper in supplying the seamen with bedding. Gudkov began working and quickly came to an agreement somewhere with someone, greased someone's palm, and everything was solved.

In short, it turned out at times that the warrant officer's inclination for drinking bouts was almost a matter of valor serving the crew's interests. The duality in evaluating Gudkov's conduct prompted him to go downhill more and more.

It is also impossible not to ponder why, strictly speaking, the chief boat-swain's mate had to endlessly "get" or "extort" something for the ship. Why was he placed under such conditions? Why does it still happen with us that authorized supply allowances for crews are not adhered to and at the very same time there are loopholes for obtaining what is not authorized?

6904

CSO: 1801/297

AIR/AIR DEFENSE FORCES

FLIGHT SAFETY: AVIATION MAINTENANCE PROBLEMS

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 29 Jun 85 p 2

[Article by Lt Col A. Medvedev, deputy commander of Air Regiment "X" for aviation engineering service, Central Group of Forces, under the rubric "For Flight Safety": "At the Borderline of Services"]

[Text] It was early in the morning. I could see the special vehicles scurrying over the airfield from hardstand to hardstand in the predawn haze. Some technicians who were quicker intercepted them and sent them to their own aircraft. A fuss could be seen in the drivers' actions and there was no precision. Some of the vehicles were arriving late. I stopped one vehicle, then another.

"In how many minutes after the command for departure must you arrive at the aircraft hardstands? To which squadrons are you assigned?" I asked the drivers.

They looked at me with surprise and couldn't answer intelligently. It turned out that they were being given a general task of arriving at the airfield, where they would be told which aircraft to approach.

After results of the practice were summed up I went up to Lt Col Ye. Afanasyev, commander of the separate airfield technical support battalion. He was in an optimistic mood: battalion personnel had kept within the norm. He also expressed the thought that sending the special equipment where it was required was the concern of regimental aviators, and it was the job of battalion specialists to keep it in running order.

I won't conceal the fact that these words pained me, for we are accomplishing a common task of supporting the proper combat readiness of an air regiment. It is impossible to divide common concerns here into "ours" and "yours." I told the battalion commander this and saw from his face that he realized his mistake.

That is how my service began in the position of deputy air regiment commander for aviation engineering service. I recall that Afanasyev and I sat down right there in the classroom and began to analyze how best to coordinate our joint actions. Yes, we did keep within the normative time, but instances of a lack of discipline and inefficiency also were noted in the inspection. In the final

account, this came from the officer-managers. It is of course impossible to be reconciled with this: they bear personal responsibility for discipline and so there must be a special demand placed on them.

Toward the end of the conversation we arrived at a common opinion: we had to approach matters from party positions and always remember common interests, and then it was possible to find many reserves for improving efficiency and strengthening mutual ties between the regiment's aviation specialists and personnel of the airfield technical support battalion.

We moved from words to action. We began by regulating the use of special vehicles. We began to assign a task to each driver in the evening as to where he would go, at whose disposal, and in what sequence he would service the aircraft. The deputy squadron commanders for aviation engineering service knew the names of drivers and numbers of vehicles coming to them by the night before. Then we began to place stencils with the numbers of the squadron to which the vehicle was proceeding on the vehicle windshields.

Yes, the commander of the airfield technical support battalion and I found a common language. True, I soon realized that this was not enough. It was also important for all our subordinates to become imbued with a sense of responsibility for high quality of the work and to become like-thinkers in accomplishing common tasks. A conversation which I unintentionally overheard prompted me to this thought.

"It is of no interest to me that you don't have any spare parts. They must be there; look for them where you like: I have flights tomorrow," said one of the officers of the regiment's aviation engineering service heatedly.

Deputy battalion commander Maj A. Zakharov tried to explain that the requests for spare parts had been filled out on time but had not yet been filled, but the engineer didn't want to listen to explanations.

I deemed it necessary to intervene although I understood well the reasons for the engineer's agitation. I advised him to take a broader look at the problem from a common position:

"Fulfillment of the flight plan and maintenance of combat readiness is a collective task. If the suppliers delay the spare parts and violate planning discipline, we'll exert pressure from two sides by making the party committee aware of it..."

Later I talked with subordinates and advised them to become closer to the battalion personnel, know their difficulties and help them if necessary. The people there operate under a complicated schedule in supporting day and night flights. It is no simple matter in the battalion to hold to the order of the day and carry out different kinds of activities.

The attitude toward flight support changed noticeably even in the airfield technical support battalion itself. I had more than one occasion to hear sub-unit leaders say to subordinates:

"There is an immutable rule in aviation: if an aircraft is unserviceable the technician will not leave the airfield. One battalion vehicle services several aircraft. That means each battalion soldier's attitude toward the job must be appropriate..."

Precise planning of vehicle use and mutual understanding produced a positive result. Efficiency and work quality increased, flight support became smoother, and the sense of responsibility of technical specialists and drivers for effective use of time and vehicles rose. It became easier to determine who was at fault for the occurrence of particular failures.

If some unforeseen difficulties arise now, we do not engage in mutual accusations as sometimes was the case previously, but we try to analyze the reasons for the mistakes in a businesslike, party manner and together we seek ways to solve the problems.

Once Maj V. Bushuk, the 1st Squadron deputy commander for aviation engineering service, came up to me at an aircraft hardstand. I surmised from the expression on his gloomy face that some unpleasantness had occurred.

"Dents were found on the blades in one of the engines," he reported.

I inspected the engine myself. There were indeed dents: it appeared that these traces were left by pieces of concrete from the landing strip which entered the engine. It was a serious matter: pieces of concrete might get into the engines of the other combat aircraft. If the dents were not detected in time, microfissures would appear and a break of the compressor blades and destruction of the engine was possible in flight. Steps had to be taken quickly.

We called in Maj Zakharov.

"Yes, this is our fault," he admitted. "We'll check the slabs in the touchdown sector."

We carefully inspected the sector of the concrete runway and discovered a chipping of the slab. What had to be done to ensure that such a thing was not repeated? Together with battalion specialists we drew a diagram of the runway and taxiways and numbered the rows of slabs. Later a group of aviators of the regiment and battalion began to check the strip prior to each flight section, noting on the diagram where foreign objects were discovered. The overall condition of the slabs and the asphalt filling of seams also was noted here.

A feeling of collective responsibility for combat readiness and for the maintenance of order and efficiency contributes to the manifestation of a creative search and forces aviators to take an irreconcilable attitude toward shortcomings. The contact of the aviation regiment's party committee and the airfield technical support battalion's party buro became closer.

Once, for example, representatives of the regiment's aviation engineering service were invited to a party meeting in the battalion which was discussing party members' exemplariness in combat training and their responsibility for

performance of military duty. One of the urgent problems was resolved at that time.

We called it the "teapot" problem. The fact is that specialists from the servicing team have to obtain a small amount of coolant--antifreeze--to service the aircraft's onboard radar. Much time was sometimes spent obtaining several hundred grams of the fluid. It was necessary to write out the necessary document, "catch" the storekeeper and find an appropriate container. And so some would go with a can and others with a teapot. Although everyone was sick of the "teapot" problem, they were somehow too busy to solve it. Then at the meeting the party members advised the battalion commander to eliminate this gap and proposed an idea: to install a container of antifreeze on one of the oil dispensing vehicles. That's what they did. Now the vehicle arrives on request to where it is awaited. The "insoluble" problem disappeared and much working time was saved.

Specialists of the airfield technical support battalion helped us greatly by laying cables with various current parameters to every aircraft hardstand. Now the aircraft can be readied for take-off there and if necessary the pilot starts the engine on the hardstand and proceeds to the take-off.

An aircraft is a collective weapon. Numerous different specialists take part in its preparation for take-off. The unconscientiousness, carelessness or mistake of one may reduce the work of other specialists to naught. For this reason officers of the regiment's aviation engineering service not only try to find and prevent any mistake but, together with colleagues from the support battalion, they discover the reasons for them.

Once Maj D. Koloturskiy discovered that a special vehicle's unit was not producing those electrical current parameters at the airfield which were needed to provide normal power for aircraft equipment. He arrived in the battalion together with the driver and checked the unit on a bench. It turned out that the specialist servicing the bench had a poor knowledge of its design although he would place his signature in the journal about the units' readiness for operation. As a result we succeeded not only in finding a bottleneck, but also in drawing attention to the training of drivers and technical specialists.

...The next flight section was ending. I saw the regimental commander go up to Lt Col Afanasyev and shake his hand.

"Thanks for the conscientious work. There were no admonitions for battalion specialists," he said, and the battalion commander's face brightened.

6904

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AIR/AIR DEFENSE FORCES

FLIGHT SAFETY: JUNIOR OFFICERS RELIEVED OF FLIGHT DUTY

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 18 Jul 85 p 3

[Article by Gds Lt Col A. Ponomarev, deputy air regiment commander, first class military pilot, under the rubric "With the Initiators of Competition": "With Concern for Future Commanders"]

[Text] An event occurred at our place at the very beginning of the training year which we could assess in no way other than as an extraordinary incident: an inspector-pilot from higher headquarters relieved several young assistant crew commanders from flight duty all at once because of poor theoretical training and a poor knowledge of the instruction. Such a fact is considered unusual in any regiment, and even more so for the initiators of competition in the Air Forces. But what happened, happened. We thoroughly analyzed the occurrence and drew certain conclusions. We proceeded from the assumption that today's young copilot must become the commander of a crew, flight or squadron tomorrow. But such a transformation doesn't occur by the wave of a wand; future commanders have to be prepared today: trained, indoctrinated, guided.

We took a closer look at how we accomplish this task and we ourselves discovered many deficiencies. In short, the inspector's decision served as a signal for serious, thoughtful work. There was an unbiased party discussion on this subject in the subunits and specific steps were outlined, among which individual work was to play the deciding role. The principle that "every crew commander trains his own assistant" became the basic one.

We repeatedly held serious discussions of affairs in the regiment together with squadron commanders and their political deputies, and we analyzed and compared. It turned out that an unjustified turn had been taken toward "pure" flight work, since previous omissions in theoretical and moral-psychological training and individual indoctrinational work also were not slow in telling on the flying techniques of individual pilots. For example, when Gds Capt N. Bezborodov was assistant aircraft commander he showed good promise and stood out somewhat for the better among his comrades. But Bezborodov forced us to be uneasy when he was mastering flying from the commander's seat. It turned out that the pilot overestimated his capabilities and prematurely felt himself to be a leader, while we didn't notice this in time and didn't help him set the correct course. Everything finally went well and Bezborodov got firmly on his feet as a pilot, but soon another omission of ours was discovered. Having become

carried away with polishing the flying proficiency of the young commander, we ignored an improvement in his strictly command qualities. Bezborodov himself now was preparing well for flights, but his subordinates often would make mistakes. It turned out that the young commander sometimes "forgot" to carry out individual supervision and see to it that his crew members persistently deepened their knowledge of the missile-armed aircraft's equipment and perfected the skills of using the equipment in performing flight assignments. In time this barrier too managed to be surmounted and today there are no complaints about Bezborodov.

The duty of aviators is strictly regulated; everything is precisely written out in it. The basic documents provide for when and how flights are planned, how much a pilot must rest, and what interruptions are permissible in fulfilling particular combat training elements. Training is organized under an approved plan in accordance with each pilot's training level. It would appear that one only has to follow the instructions and everything will be in order. But in the flying profession as possibly in no other, any attempts at a general approach to pilots' development have a pernicious effect. In the work of training future commanders it is very important above all to see a person's personality and know his character traits, weak and strong points, abilities and inclinations, the family atmosphere and even the mood prior to each flight section.

Based on working experience and my own observations, I can say that a large number of features must be considered, above all those of a purely psychological nature, when young pilots are mastering the techniques of flying a missile-armed aircraft from the commander's seat. Responsibility for the missile aircraft, for the crew and for performance of the flight mission rests like a heavy burden on the shoulders of yesterday's assistant aircraft commander. Now his name, that of the commander, stands behind each step of the crew on the ground and in the air and dozens of eyes are fixed on him when he takes off and lands. It is difficult at first to realize that you have been entrusted with a formidable, highly effective weapon and that you bear personal responsibility for its employment and for the training of subordinates. Interruptions in flights, fluctuations of meteorological conditions, especially between seasons, all possible changes in the situation during a flight section, and even one's own successes or failures affect young pilots psychologically differently from experienced pilots. Here too attention, sensitiveness and pedagogic vigilance are demanded of the commander, political worker and instructor in order to keep a young pilot from stumbling.

...Gds Capt V. Krechkin was successfully mastering the flight program as an aircraft commander. There had been no complaints against him during ground training. Matters also stood well with flying techniques; he felt confident and well-grounded (if it can be thus expressed) in the air. It seemed to us that everything already was in order for this pilot and we unintentionally relaxed supervision over him. Suddenly Krechkin made a crude error in a landing during a routine flight section. An analysis of the occurrence showed that the pilot had had a unique mental lapse. Inspired by success, he gradually began to lose his inner composure and precise adjustment for each specific flight and for precise fulfillment of each element of the flight mission. And

of course he could not help but sense the relaxation in exactingness toward him on the commanders' part. All this, then, led to the failure. Several additional check flights had to be planned for Krechkin in order to restore the situation.

The young aircraft commander also has to be given his due: he was able to correctly assess the existing situation, he took a self-critical attitude toward his mistake and he bent a maximum of effort to correct matters. He felt the failure keenly, but the senior comrades were nearby and Gds Maj A. Sorokin, deputy squadron commander for political affairs, devoted an especially great amount of attention to restoring the psychological balance in the young aircraft commander's heart. A first class pilot himself, Sorokin was the first to notice the crisis in the pilot's mood. After one flight section Sorokin went up to the commander and suggested at the postflight critique that they definitely indicate Krechkin's excellent performance of all assignments in the air and take special note of his good, confident landings. On the following day a special edition of an operational newssheet was devoted to this same subject in the squadron. One had to see how the face of the young aircraft commander beamed. Now he flies without admonitions. We in turn also learned a lesson from that incident.

Instructor pilots are called upon to play a major role in the training and development of young future commanders. Guards majors R. Saberov and Yu. Kurnosov fully meet this assignment. Their attitude toward training each young pilot is always very attentive and thoughtful and with a high feeling of responsibility. They don't limit themselves to developing their firm skills in flying techniques, but assiduously pass on the art of controlling the crew and the ability to evaluate the air situation in a tactically competent manner, perceive its changes keenly and react to them properly, and they develop in the young commanders a feeling of personal responsibility for the training level and actions of each crew member. Many young commanders in the regiment are obligated to these instructors for their flight and command development. It must be noted, however, that at one time Saberov and Kurnosov also were here in this unit as assistant aircraft commanders and that they themselves went through the school of air training with the first class pilots of older generations and became continuers of the good tradition in that manner.

Now the regiment has many young crew commanders who successfully completed the development process. Of course, expertise came in different ways to each one of them; each one encountered his own difficulties and didn't always succeed in overcoming them in an identically easy manner. For example, guards captains Yu. Abakumov and A. Angolenko mastered flying techniques more confidently and swiftly than the others, while command maturity came faster to Gds Capt V. Vereskov.

I would like to make special mention of one common factor which helps us in every matter. This is the high morale and frame of mind for great deeds, which unquestionably is connected with the unit's special position as initiator of socialist competition in the Air Forces. The activeness of the regiment's party and Komsomol members rose noticeably after the press published materials of the April 1985 CPSU Central Committee Plenum and in connection with the

full-scale preparation for our party's upcoming 27th congress. During the summer training period we note with satisfaction the increased composure, purposefulness and persistence of each pilot, engineer, technician and mechanic in accomplishing the tasks facing us. A search for reserves, the overcoming of inertness, stagnation and customary rates of development, the campaign against negative phenomena, and an activation of the collective's entire life--such is the demand of the time and the demand of the party. Personnel of the regiment and competition initiators understand this well and are sparing no energy to accelerate forward progress. Young pilots also are attempting to master the heights of proficiency together with experienced airmen. We are far from thinking, however, that everything is going smoothly and well for us. There still are many problems and deficiencies, and they also exist in the work of training and indoctrinating young pilots who are future commanders. But it is gratifying to realize that the absolute majority of officers at the management level see their own personal and our common unfinished work, know about it, and persistently seek ways to resolve the problems which arise and to overcome the difficulties. It can be said with confidence that party members and all personnel of the regiment will make every effort to successfully complete the training year and worthily greet the 27th Communist Party Congress.

6904

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2 October 1985

AIR/AIR DEFENSE FORCES

FLIGHT SAFETY: DOSAAF EDITORIAL NOTES SHORTCOMINGS, REMEDIES

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 5 Jun 85 p 1

[Editorial: "Flight Safety"]

[Text] The first flying days were marked by intensive flight operations in the Defense Society's aviation training organizations. Aircraft, modern helicopters and gliders went up into the sky to work. Our sportsmen and draft-age youths are persistently mastering the sophisticated equipment and are learning to confidently fly and make parachute jumps.

The aviators' successful work is promoted by strict observance of flight safety rules and strict fulfillment of guidance documents on the servicing and operation of aviation equipment and on keeping airfields in exemplary order. At the present time an absolute majority of air clubs do not allow serious flying incidents.

In competing for a worthy greeting to the 27th CPSU Congress, the flight and technical personnel of Defense Society aviation are setting the example of a creative attitude toward the job and of efficiency and discipline. An orderly system for making flights has been established in our air clubs in accordance with a USSR DOSAAF Central Committee Presidium decree on the status and measures for improving organizational and indoctrinational work to ensure flight safety.

Aviators have a modern physical facility at their disposal which includes classrooms equipped with electrified displays, simulators, laboratories with the latest technical training resources and, finally, a considerable pool of jet and piston-engine aircraft, and various types of helicopters, gliders and parachute systems. All conditions have been established for the cadets to acquire theoretical knowledge and firm skills.

An example of the organization of accidentfree flight operations are the collectives of the Voroshilovgrad Air Club (the chief is V. Melnik), Tambov Air Club (the chief is V. Solomko) and Rostov Air Club (the chief is A. Raesukovskiy), which were the winners in socialist competition for training aviation specialists and sportsmen. Successes are achieved here thanks to the unity of the indoctrination and training process, comprehensive and thorough preparation for flights, and skilled direction of flights. The command and flight-instructor

personnel in these air clubs carry on extensive preventive work to fight flying incidents and preconditions therefor.

But the state of affairs involving an elimination of the accident rate is not improving in a number of air clubs. The principal reasons for flying incidents are the personnel's crude violations of the procedure for organizing, conducting and supporting flights and a let-up on the part of DOSAAF committees in exactingness toward management cadres of aviation organizations for carelessness and for violation of documents regulating flight operations.

There has not been a drop in the number of preconditions for flying incidents committed by supervisory flight personnel and sportsmen with a high sports rating. This is a result of unsatisfactory personal preparation for flights and, in a number of cases, it is a display of conceit. For example, flight commander A. Marchenko and air club navigator V. Yushchenko, first class pilots of the Kiev Air Club, committed a serious precondition for a flying incident. The crew was negligent in making the calculation for a landing and the aircraft touched down considerably short. This led to equipment damage.

Vitebsk Air Club Chief A. Sidorov displayed thoughtlessness in deciding questions of flight safety. Two very crude preconditions for a flying incident occurred in a short time through his personal fault.

The poor moral-psychological and practical training of some flight controllers causes special alarm. Unfortunately not all of them as yet realize the responsibility and importance they have in performing their duties. Here is an example from the Vyazniki Air Club. Flight controller A. Mikhaylov became confused at an important moment when a helicopter crew needed his assistance. Radio traffic rules were violated and vague commands were given. As a result the helicopter landed on an unplanned pad.

Special attention must be given to flight control and to preventing preconditions for flying incidents. The fact is that the day is not far off when summer vacation will begin for upperclassmen and the 15- and 16-year-old beginning aviation sportsmen will arrive at air club airfields and begin flying. A concerned paternal eye, attention and prudence are needed here. The pilot or parachutist-instructor must be the model of modesty, composure and faultless behavior for the young boys and girls.

Unfortunately we still encounter people among the pilots and parachutists who have bad inclinations and a weakness for liquor. They do great damage to indoctrinational work by their actions and create a situation for preconditions for flying incidents. At one time Yu. Yakushin and V. Marshinin were released from the Kurgan Air Club for systematic drunkenness and a negligent attitude toward official duties.

Instances of drunkenness are inadmissible, especially in aviation organizations. They must be fought in a most decisive manner, for which we must intensify indoctrinational work among the command and flight-instructor personnel, conduct active propaganda against drunkenness and alcoholism, exercise daily medical supervision, and use all accessible forms to establish a sober way of life.

In order to assure flight safety the Defense Society committees have to improve labor and flight discipline and impose proper order in the organization of flight work in all air clubs. It is proposed to this end that in the period of active flying the heads of DOSAAF committees sum up the results of aviator training monthly and take prompt steps to perfect the style of management of aviation organizations. Principal efforts should be aimed at preparing aviation specialists for the Armed Forces and aviation sportsmen with high quality and without flying or parachute incidents.

DOSAAF central committees of union republics and the Society's kraykoms and obkoms must significantly improve political indoctrination work in light of resolutions of the April 1985 CPSU Central Committee Plenum. There must be a resolute struggle against laxity and idle talk and bold action against eyewash and oversimplifications in training.

Life insistently demands an improvement in the quality with which flight and engineer-technical personnel are trained, a perfection of the methodology, rational use of work time, and effective use of objective monitoring resources. Instances of aviation equipment failures through the fault of specialists who prepared it are especially inadmissible. Technical personnel must display all their ability and proficiency in preparing aircraft and helicopters for flight.

Intensive flying has begun. It is the duty of Defense Society aviators to perform it at a high professional and organizational level. Let every instructor-pilot, sportsman and technician remember that flight safety is a matter of state importance.

6904

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AIR/AIR DEFENSE FORCES

CHIEF MARSHAL TOLUBKO ON COMBAT READINESS OF SRF

AU070501 Moscow KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL in Russian No. 10 May 85 (Signed to press 6 May 85) pp 23-30

[Article by Chief Marshal of Artillery V. Tolubko, commander in chief of Strategic Rocket Forces, USSR deputy minister of defense: "With a High Degree of Combat Readiness"]

[Text] An atmosphere of increased practical activity, responsibility, and exactingness characterizes the life and training of Strategic Rocket Forces personnel and all their multifaceted work in preparation for the 27th CPSU Congress. Like all Soviet people, the missile troops (voyn raketchnik) warmly approve the decisions of the April CPSU Central Committee Plenum, unanimously support the Leninist party's firm course of accelerating the socioeconomic development of the country, perfecting all aspects of the life of our socialist society, and increasing the welfare of Soviet people, and strive in their military work to strengthen the defense power of the motherland.

We have to solve grandiose constructive tasks in the conditions of the growing danger of war, the threat of nuclear war, and the most acute ideological struggle. International imperialism, led by the United States, is striving to halt at any cost the process of progressive transformations, is trying to turn back the wheel of history, and is increasingly insistently making impertinent claims to world domination. The militant forces of imperialism are trying to assert confrontation in international relations, to alter the military-strategic balance in their favor, and are setting out on the road of balancing dangerously on the edge of nuclear war.

It is precisely at this that the American strategy of "direct confrontation", the goal of which is the achievement of complete and incontestable military superiority over the USSR, is aimed. This is also served by the long-term program of building up American strategic nuclear forces, the plans to deploy the next generation of nuclear and conventional weapons, and President R. Reagan's so-called "Strategic Defense Initiative".

In a spirit of aggressive intentions, the United States is developing various versions of nuclear war, and its Armed Forces are being constructed accordingly: new nuclear weapons intended to fulfill strategic tasks are being deployed near the borders of the Soviet Union and its allies; new strategic first-strike weapons are being created at accelerated rates (MX and Midgetman Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles, Trident-2 submarine-launched ballistic missiles, and variously based long-range cruise missiles), new types of weapons of mass destruction are being developed. Work to militarize outer space is being carried out on a wide scale, and programs are being implemented to create and deploy antisatellite weapons and an echeloned antimissile system with space-based elements. The development and introduction into service of new systems of nuclear artillery and other types of general-purpose weapons and military equipment is continuing. The United States has firmly bound the NATO countries to its aggressive course. The positioning of the American Pershing-II and cruise missiles in a number of Western European countries represents a particular danger. In their combat potential and purpose these weapons are strategic weapons with respect to the USSR.

The psychological war directed against the Soviet Union and its allies, which has been developed on a wide scale by imperialist reaction and its minions, and the "crusade" against communism declared by the American administration, are both exerting a sharply negative influence on the international climate.

The socialist countries oppose the adventurist policies of the imperialist states with a policy of peace and friendship between peoples. It is a policy not of words but of a true love of peace. Soviet peace initiatives eloquently attest to this. At the same time, the Communist Party and our state, taking into account the increased aggressiveness of the forces of reaction and militarism, call upon Soviet people to display unwavering vigilance and to concern themselves with strengthening the country's defense might and with increasing the combat capabilities and combat readiness of its Armed Forces. "We shall continue to spare no efforts," the April CPSU Central Committee Plenum stressed, "to ensure that the USSR Armed Forces have everything necessary for the reliable defense of our fatherland and its allies, and that no one can take us unawares."

Soviet soldiers, including Strategic Rocket Forces personnel, received this directive of the party's Central Committee as a combat task of reliably standing guard over our people's peaceful work, of always being on the alert, of keeping the powder dry, of fulfilling the soldier's duty with the utmost intensity and with

initiative and creativity, and of increasing in every way possible their readiness for a swift and crushing rebuff of any aggressor.

The combat readiness of the Strategic Rocket Forces is determined primarily by their vigilant performance of combat duty, by the high quality of tactical-spatial training of personnel, by their profound mastery of equipment and weapons, and also by the level of the ideological maturity, moral-political tempering, discipline, and organization of the soldiers, and by the art of controlling the troops.

A high level of combat readiness does not arise of itself. It is forged every day by the purposeful organizational, ideological, and political-educational work of office cadres and by the selfless military work of the entire personnel. The decisive role in the struggle to perfect combat readiness belongs to the military council, the commanders, the staffs, the political organs, and the party organizations. Their friendly and coordinated action is a good and unchanging tradition in the Strategic Rocket Forces and a practical manifestation of one of the most important principles of military building, the principle of party leadership of the Armed Forces. This principle is embodied in the unity of military and political leadership, in the aspiration of command and political personnel and the party aktiv to master a genuinely Leninist style of work, and in the increase of party-political influence on the training and educational process and on all aspects of the life and service of the soldiers.

The Strategic Rocket Forces are relatively young; in December of last year they celebrated their 20th anniversary. Their birth as a service of the USSR Armed Forces was brought about by harsh necessity, and was a countermeasure by the Soviet state to the imperialist threat to unleash a nuclear-missile war against us. Thanks to the paternal care of the party, the scientific-technological genius and selfless work of our people, and the mighty economic potential of the country, this new service of the Armed Forces was formed in a short space of time. Together with the other services of the Armed Forces, the Strategic Rocket Forces play an important role in deterring the aggressive ardor and adventurist designs of the class enemy.

In a quarter of a century, the Strategic Rocket Forces have matured and become strong. Our units and subunits are equipped with powerful weapons and contemporary combat equipment. Our strategic missiles possess a high degree of reliability and effectiveness of combat use. And this powerful force for ensuring the security of the motherland and for defending the achievements

of socialism lies in skillful and reliable hands.

The time which has elapsed since the 26th CPSU Congress has been a period of further perfecting the mobilization and combat readiness of the rocket troops and the military skill of personnel. Evidence of this is the fact that all combat training launches of strategic missiles have been carried out successfully, with an increase in qualitative indexes. The quality of performance of combat duty has also increased. The number of masters of military affairs, class specialists, and soldiers who are outstanding in training has increased, and in many crews full interchangeability has been achieved.

Persistently fulfilling the demands of the party's Central Committee and the USSR minister of defense, the personnel work intensively and conscientiously and strives every day and hour to raise the level of technical and tactical-special training and to develop the combat coordination of crews, subunits, and units to maximum effect. The most effective forms and methods of mastering contemporary equipment and automated control systems are being introduced into the training and educational process of the troops. This makes it possible to equip officers, warrant officers, sergeants, and soldiers with knowledge and practical skills in using missile systems both in and out of combat, and in performing their combat duty. The names of the best officers--F. Byacov, V. Biryukov, A. Pavlov--and other able methodologists and teachers, whose experience is the property of many military collectives, are well known.

The development in the missile troops of creative initiative, a feeling for the new, and of an aspiration for high final results in military work contributes to the socialist competition for a worthy preparation for the 27th CPSU Congress, which developed in the troops on the initiative of the personnel of the outstanding rocket unit [raketnaya chast] commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel T. Mayakov. There is now more concreteness in the organization of the competition. The individual and collective obligations of the missile troops primarily envisaged by their entire content the improvement of qualitative indicators both in the mastery of weapons and equipment, in the mastery by practice of combat training tasks and norms, and in tactical-special training, and also in the performance of combat duty, in political training, and in the strengthening of discipline, organization, and order.

In the majority of military collectives people clearly understand the importance of their conscientious military labor for maintaining a high degree of combat readiness among the units and subunits. They adopt a responsible attitude toward the fulfillment of their military duty and the socialist obligations

they have taken upon themselves. In particular, our initiators of pre-Congress competition have reached the degree of combat skill planned for the winter period. Every third missile troop of the unit celebrated the 40th anniversary of the great victory as an outstanding soldier in combat and political training, every second officer as a master of military affairs, and two-thirds of the personnel are specialists of enhanced class. The collective's obligations, which envisaged reducing the time spent in fulfilling the basic norms of combat work, were also realized.

In the Rocket Forces the performance of combat duty is the highest form and most important factor of maintaining the combat readiness of the units and of the organs for controlling, training, and educating personnel. The performance of combat duty is justly regarded as the fulfillment of a combat task of particular state importance. All organizational and political work is done by the military council, commanders, staff and political organs, and party and Komsomol organizations, and the entire training and education process and socialist competition are primarily subordinated to the fulfillment of this main task.

A system of a complex approach to ensuring high-quality combat duty has taken shape and is being put into practice. This system includes a great deal. First, through the soldiers' recognition of all the importance and significance of their exemplary fulfillment of complex and responsible tasks in the conditions of the real danger of war and the aggressive preparations of imperialism; based on this the formation in every missile soldier of a sharpened sense of personal responsibility, self-discipline, vigilance, and irreconcilability toward the slightest manifestations of negligence and carelessness. Second, comprehensive military-technical, specialized-tactical, and moral-psychological training of personnel for the fulfillment of functional responsibilities on combat duty. Third, differentiated, purposeful work with the different categories of servicemen to ensure fulfillment of duty and organization without exception in every administrative unit and every detachment and relief unit directly engaged in combat work.

The present-day generation of missiles is comprised of highly automated systems based on contemporary electronic computer technology with remote control. A high technical standard based on a thorough knowledge of physics, electronics, mathematics, ergonomics, and other sciences is essential in order to control these weapons and use them competently. Consequently missile troops cannot weaken their efforts to perfect their technical training for a single day. An up-to-date material-technical foundation, including laboratory complexes with practice missiles, panels, apparatus, electrified test equipment and

electronic systems, has been formed for training in the units. It is important that they be used to the maximum advantage everywhere.

Complex equipment and weapons, and strict rules for performing combat duty considerably increase the demands made on the soldiers' moral-combat qualities and on their psychological and physical tempering. Hence the necessity to ensure indissoluble unity of training and education, and the most important aspect in this work is to form in personnel all-round readiness and the ability to always, under any conditions, fulfill the tasks set and steadfastly withstand all the difficulties of modern combat.

The tasks of training and educating personnel have been skilfully and creatively fulfilled for a number of years now in the excellent rocket unit commanded by Officer I. Shelestov. Here planned exercises in technical training are well organized and competitions for the best specialist and the best crew are systematically held. The results of the competitions are announced through general orders. The winners are encouraged by the commanders. Their experience in combat work is studied with personnel and is visually demonstrated in the Lenin room and in study classes.

Due attention is devoted in this collective to organizing socialist competition in tasks and norms, particularly in the process of performing combat duty. Reports are made in every subunit and the results of norm fulfillment by each soldier, sergeant, ensign, and officer are propagandized. This develops a spirit of competition in the soldiers.

Through joint effort, officers and party and Komsomol activists mobilize the soldiers to train intensively and steadfastly overcome difficulties during exercises and training sessions simulating the conditions of real battle, as well as during their performance of combat duty. Through praise and other measures of moral incentive they enhance specialists' zealous military labor, initiative, persistence, and skill, and instil in soldiers a sense of pride for their advance collective and responsibility for the state of affairs in it.

The amicable, joint work of the commander, political workers, and the party organization yields positive results. Almost every soldier, sergeant, ensign, and officer is a high-class specialist, has mastered closely related professions, and vigilantly performs combat duty. At the final inspection, unit personnel showed increased training, coordination, and skill.

One can cite a considerable number of such examples. Suffice it

to say that the personnel of more than 97 percent of all units receive solely excellent and good appraisals for their performance of combat duty. Preparing for the 27th CPSU Congress, commanders, staff, political organs, and party organizations are concerning themselves with consolidating and developing accumulated experience and are seeking reserves and potentials for thoroughly mastering and efficiently utilizing missile weapons, as well as for unconditionally fulfilling tasks to maintain these weapons in a constant state of readiness for use in combat.

One of the most vital reserves for increasing the efficiency of the training and education process is further improvement in the methodological training of the officer component. Positive results have been achieved in recent years in many units in the perfection of training methods. This has also been assisted by scientific research carried out in the Rocket Forces. This research not only covers the study of technical issues and the problems of weapons usage and troop support in the field, but also the search for new, more progressive training methods and their implementation in practice.

The troops also remember another truth: Only firm discipline and precise organization make it possible to reach a high level of military skill and to impeccably perform combat duty. In the units and subunits where the commanders, political workers, and party and Komsomol organizations constantly and substantively engage in educating personnel in a spirit of strict observance of the order and rules established by military manuals and regulations, and by directions and instructions regulating the system of combat duty and troop service, the efficiency of military labor is greater.

The maintenance and further improvement in combat readiness is inconceivable without firm military discipline. As is well-known, this not only presupposes strict and precise observance of the requirements of military regulations, but also an aware, creative attitude toward one's duty and one's service responsibilities. Precisely this defines discipline as a political and moral category.

Here, in addition to the commanders and political workers, communists in the administrative organs can and are expected to do a great deal. Recently communists in the staff, services, and administration have increased their participation in daily political education work with personnel. And this is yielding tangible results. Without reducing attention to the positive experience of progressive units in the task of strengthening military discipline, commanders, political organs, staff, and

party organizations have begun to adopt a more critical approach to appraising discipline from the viewpoint of the interests of combat readiness. Discipline in combat duty, plan discipline, discipline and organization in combat training, and fulfillment of duty from top to bottom are now being moved into the forefront when appraising the state of discipline in subunits, units, and other structural sections.

The party organizations are the cementing and inspiring force, and the political core of the military collectives of the Rocket Forces. Fulfilling the decisions of the 20th Party Congress, the resolutions of subsequent CPSU Central Committee plenums, and the recommendations of the Sixth All-Army Conference of Secretaries of Primary Party Organizations, many of them have increased their influence on the fulfillment of combat duty tasks, the growth in the military skill of personnel, the mastering of complex missile equipment, and the strengthening of discipline and organization. There is no doubt that this has also been the result of the fact that full-blooded party organizations have been set up and operate in every combat subunit without exception, and that the process of qualitatively improving party work is actively continuing, primarily by means of admitting soldiers in leading professions into the party.

The problems of ensuring that communists set a personal example in service, training, and discipline; demonstrate sociopolitical activities, and participate in the education of personnel are now being resolved more keenly and in a more principled manner in primary party organizations. In this respect the party organizations where officer A. Uskov, Ye. Kiyuchko, and P. Ishchinskiy are secretaries deserve a good word in particular. An atmosphere of amicable work, party exactingness, and adherence to principle has been created in these party organizations. Almost all communists here have a responsible attitude to the matter in hand, are masters of combat skills or high-class specialists, and explain party requirements and decisions to the soldiers. The considerable merit of these party organizations lies in the fact that the military collectives in which they form the political core are among the most advanced in the Rocket Forces.

One also cannot fail to note the increased role of the staff party organizations in perfecting the style of work of communists in an administrative organ. The overwhelming majority of staff officers are communists and virtually every area of combat readiness is safeguarded by their influence. It is positive that a change has been observed in staff party organizations in favor of a more thorough and principled evaluation of the activities of every CPSU member, and greater exactitude over the fulfillment of

of party and service duty. This impels communists to responsibly fulfill their functional duties and work purposefully in the units, which ultimately has an effect on improving the state of affairs.

The party-political work conducted in the units and subunits is an effective means of extending and intensifying party influence on servicemen, educating them in a spirit of responsibility for the security of the motherland, and forming in them a communist world outlook, an active position on life, and the qualities of ardent patriots and internationalists.

Certain positive changes have taken place in ideological, mass political work. And in the main forms of political training for personnel under the salutary influence of the decisions of the 26th Party Congress and the June (1983) CPSU Central Committee plenum. The participation of leading staff in the political, military, legal, and moral education of members of the missile troops has noticeably increased.

The military council, commanders, political organs, and party organizations are more persistently striving to unite the training and education of personnel and to bring ideological-political work as close as possible to combat duty, the training process, and those tasks which are being resolved by the units and subunits in accordance with party requirements and orders issued by the USSR Ministry of Defense.

Making soldiers deeply conscious of the decisions of the March and April (1985) CPSU Central Committee plenums and mobilizing missile troops to worthily prepare for the 27th Party Congress is now at the heart of all ideological work. The increased political and practical activeness of personnel is aimed at qualitatively fulfilling the tasks of the academic year, fulfilling socialist obligations, and reaching new frontlines in the perfection of combat readiness.

The broad complex of ideological measures implemented in connection with the 40th anniversary of the victory and the 25th anniversary of the Strategic Rocket Forces has made possible the strengthening of the military-patriotic education of young people and more thoroughly study the generalization of frontline experience, which is creatively utilized in the practice of training and educating personnel.

Many of our units were formed on the basis of units with honorary titles or with orders awarded during the war. A whole series of them today bear the honorary title of Guards for their superiority. Commanders, political workers, and party

organizations use this to educate the troops in the glorious traditions of the frontline soldiers. Meetings with participants in the Great Patriotic War, subject discussion evenings, readers conferences, and film festivals are held everywhere.

The Komsomol organizations make their own contribution to military-patriotic education. They actively participated in the All-Union March of Komsomol members and young people to places of revolutionary, combat and labor glory of the Soviet people, and adopted a creative approach to holding the Revolutionary Glory and Remembrance Vigil Weeks. Many missile troops have taken patronage over war invalids, veterans, the families of soldiers who died in the war, fraternal graves, and military burials, and they produce records of frontline soldiers' recollections.

All that has been said by no means signifies that there are no unresolved problems, shortcomings, omissions, and unutilized reserves and potentials in the Strategic Rocket Forces. Exactly appraising our activities before the party congress, we are aware of both positive and negative phenomena. In some units there are serious shortcomings in the organization of the training process, as well as cases where personnel are out of touch with combat training and some exercises are low in efficiency. Not all staff and political organs carry out control and verification of fulfillment as they should. It is not everywhere that the work of commanders, political workers, and party and Komsomol organizations to strengthen discipline, organization, and order yields the expected results. The organization of socialist competition in the lower subunits leaves much to be desired due to the inability of the young officers in charge of them to kindle a spirit of competition in the soldiers. In some party organizations an atmosphere of high exactingness and adherence to principle in work is slow in being established, and criticism and self-criticism are sometimes of a declarative nature. As a whole, commanders and staff, and political organs and party organizations have something to think about.

Guided by the requirements of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR minister of defense, we have to increase our efforts to cultivate in officers, and primarily in communist leaders, a state approach to matters, integrity, uprightness, and a sense of responsibility for the quality and efficiency of every training day and for the fulfillment of every combat training task.

The standard of combat readiness is a real indicator of the efficiency of the work of the leader of any unit. The command, political, and engineering-technical cadres of the Strategic Rocket Forces are competent people aware of their duty to the

motherland. A broad ideological-theoretical outlook, a feel for the new, good organizing abilities, and responsibility for the matter in hand are characteristic of the majority of our commanders and political workers. They ensure strict military order, precise organization of the training and education process, and the timely and qualitative fulfillment of set tasks in the sectors entrusted to them.

Naturally, new command and political cadres are constantly arriving to lead units and subunits, and there is an influx of fresh forces into the staffs and other command organs. These characteristic features are taken into account in the work of the military council, the commanders, and the political organs. They concern themselves with the formation of these leaders, assist them in mastering the art of command activity and in acquiring fulfillment discipline and the ability to comprehend the scale of tasks in the assigned sector, to look ahead and to work in perspective, and motivate them to systematically broaden their political and operational horizon. It is important that our officers even more persistently raise the level of their political culture, master a state breadth of views and the ability to approach tasks in a party manner, show sensitivity toward and care for people, and are able to unite the energy and efforts of personnel to solve the complicated and responsible tasks facing the troops.

The motherland has entrusted us with powerful weapons and first-class combat equipment for reliably ensuring its security. Communists and all soldiers hold this trust dear and are full of resolution to steadily increase their efforts in further raising the level of their combat readiness, and also to prepare for the 27th CPSU Congress with new successes in combat training. Closely united around the native Communist Party and its Leninist Central Committee, the strategic missile troops in the united formation of the Soviet Armed Forces are always ready to fulfill their patriotic and internationalist duty with honor.

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AIR/AIR DEFENSE FORCES

FLIGHT SAFETY: DEVIATION FROM FLIGHT PLANNING TABLE

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 1 Aug 85 p 2

[Article by Col A. Karpenko, Honored Military Pilot of the USSR, Group of Soviet Forces in Germany, under the rubric "For Flight Safety": "Discipline of the Planning Table"]

[Text] That day the aviators of Unit "X" were to carry out flight operations under adverse weather conditions. As always, the servicemen prepared intensively for the difficult test. Suddenly the situation became even more complicated--the weather began to worsen. But Lt Col N. Sharoyko decided to begin work in the air according to the existing version of the flight planning table, "correcting" it just a bit as they went along. To put it more precisely, he decided to begin the flights in violation of requirements of documents regulating accidentfree operation.

Then the first missile-armed aircraft taxied out to the startingline. After a short, swift take-off run the winged craft departed steeply upward and in a few seconds disappeared behind a shroud of dense low clouds. The roaring noise had not yet abated when yet another missile-armed aircraft headed skyward. Soon Lt Col Sharoyko himself also took off in a training aircraft. By this time the lower edge of the clouds had descended even more and it had begun to drizzle. In addition, the wind direction changed suddenly. Now it was blowing at a right angle to the runway axis.

Such conditions are not superdifficult for the experienced pilot. Lt Col Sharoyko made a successful landing after completing the mission, but then a young pilot who did not have sufficient skills in flying in such a situation began to come in for a landing. After touching down the pilot was unable to maintain his direction in the landing run and the missile-armed aircraft rolled off the runway...

This incident happened relatively long ago, but I remember it well as a graphic illustration of the question about the need to thoughtfully compile and strictly follow the flight planning table. It is generally known that the organization of flights envisages decisionmaking, planning, and preparation for immediate performance of the assigned mission. The planning of flight sections is a very important element here, since the rhythmic nature of pilots' work in the air is laid down by the flight planning table. It serves as the basic

document which defines the activity of all specialists in preparing and carrying out flights. Figuratively speaking, the planning table resembles a score for an orchestra which indicates precisely what melody each musician is to play and the time and sequence in which instruments begin playing. But while a violation of the established order in an orchestra will lead only to a distortion of the melody, at which listeners will make wry faces, the consequences of a violation of the flight planning table can be immeasurably more serious.

It was pure chance that the episode which I related did not end in an irreparable unpleasantness. It all happened because Lt Col Sharoyko took no account of an elementary requirement placed in the planning table on a mandatory basis. As a rule a sortie by a training aircraft with an experienced instructor aboard is planned at first under adverse weather conditions. It is even better when an aviator who has performed airborne weather reconnaissance takes off. In such cases he reports data on the weather and its change from the moment reconnaissance was performed.

Moreover, the aviator who is first to take off in an adverse meteorological situation must have the right to decide on further performance of flights. Lt Col Sharoyko of course knew about this, but still he gave instructions that combat aircraft flown by young pilots be the first to be sent up. There was a precondition for a flying incident as a result. Something else suffered: because of what happened the flights were stopped, although another three hours remained under the plan before they were to end. For this reason many pilots were unable to take off that day to perform the planned exercises and improve their combat proficiency. This was the result of the arbitrary recarving of the planning table. The fact is that it was enough to follow the established procedure for beginning the departure of aircraft under a variant dictated by the weather situation and the aviators would have succeeded in accomplishing all assigned missions without hindrance, using the take-off time with maximum effectiveness, and taking a new step forward along the path toward an improvement in flying skills.

The planning table can be both updated and corrected in the planning phase, but from the moment it is assigned by appropriate commanders and chiefs and the unit or subunit commander approves it in a check of readiness, it becomes law for the flight section, a law which requires strict and precise fulfillment by all aviators.

The subordinates of Officer V. Lobov have been achieving outstanding results for several years in a row now. The guards aviators repeatedly demonstrated high proficiency in tactical flying exercises conducted in a situation approximating the conditions of real combat to the maximum. The servicemen achieved such success largely thanks to the precise and thoughtful organization of combat training. Here the flight planning table became that firm basis which gives the necessary direction and orderliness to the efforts of all aviators and motivates servicemen to struggle for successful fulfillment of their socialist pledges.

The commander, his deputies and all specialists regard compilation of flight planning tables here with special attention. Careful consideration is given to

conformity of the nature of planned exercises to the training level of each pilot and crew, the methods sequence of upcoming tasks, standards of accrued flying time, the number of flights and tactical applications in a flight section, time intervals between aircraft take-offs and landings, and the overall load on the air space during every hour of take-off time, based on capabilities of specialists in the management and flight control group and the radar control group. To this must be added the distribution of flying zones and flight routes; organization of objective monitoring of the performance of exercises being practiced for the first time or after interruptions which have occurred; observance of the established aircraft use factor and full load on training aircraft; the time for preparing aviation equipment for the next sorties, and so on.

Even a simple list of points gives the impression that competent compilation of the planning table is a complicated and responsible process. It is within the capability only of experienced, well trained aviators who are able to correctly and thoroughly assess all necessary data so as to organize precise, effective performance of flights on their basis.

Meanwhile, some commanders view this process as something not mandatory and not requiring special attention: it isn't the first time we are compiling the table, they say, and it is a customary matter. But later it turns out that the methods sequence in training the aviators has been violated and other flight planning requirements have not been fulfilled. All these omissions make themselves known immediately as soon as the green flares announcing the beginning of the next flight section flash above the airfield. In order to correct the situation at least in some way, such commanders resort to new violations--an arbitrary change in the order in which training assignments and flying conditions are fulfilled begins.

It is not difficult to imagine the consequences to which this leads. A pilot is given confidence in the successful performance of a flying assignment not only by his proficiency and the high reliability of equipment, but also by firm order on the ground and a precise rhythm in the work of all specialists. Nothing so negatively affects the condition of a pilot awaiting take-off as confusion, contradictory instructions and unjustified haste. I know well from my own experience of many years of flying work how much higher one's emotional and volitional mood becomes when one sees the mutual responsibility for flight safety in aviators joined by a sense of special respect for the planning table.

Unfortunately it is assumed in places that fulfilling the table is a concern only for the regimental and squadron commanders and their deputies. I remember conversing once with a young flight commander.

"The planning table?" he said, repeating the question, and immediately responded: "Little depends on me here."

But the fact is, who knows a pilot better than the flight commander? He is the one who knows both the strong and weak aspects of an aviator, his character traits and flying qualities. Hence there are more opportunities to influence a pilot's combat development with the help of appropriate planning. That is how

foremost flight commanders such as Maj N. Bogachev, Capt A. Boyko, Capt V. Volyanskiy and others proceed. They thoroughly analyze the entire progress of their subordinates' training, carefully see to it that all missions they have planned are accomplished exactly on the prescribed dates and with high quality, and they are active assistants of the squadron commanders in matters of organizing and conducting flights.

The concern for strengthening discipline is a vital job for every aviator and every party and Komsomol organization. A special role is played here by the representatives of higher headquarters who make on-the-spot checks of the fulfillment of flight assignments. In the majority of cases these are the most experienced, qualified aviators who know the fine points of flying, who can place strict demands and who can help with a kind word or businesslike recommendation. I have known officers V. Kotov, V. Kalintsev, Ye. Ryzhov, P. Shilovskiy and others as such more than one year now; they often have occasion to travel to the units to teach commanders the practice of organizing flying work. They put in much time and effort to teach aviators the ability to compile flight planning tables competently and thoughtfully and they strictly monitor the fulfillment of requirements of guidance documents.

Unfortunately, however, there are frequent instances where a particular representative of higher headquarters uses the time spent in the unit only as an opportunity to "fly for himself." Such an aviator arrives in the regiment right on the day of flights when the planning table already has been drawn up. It is naturally difficult for him to delve deeply into its content or correctly evaluate the substantiation of each sortie. In this case the inspector-pilot is concerned only that he himself manage to prepare to perform a personal flying assignment. There is no need here to speak of comprehensive, fundamental monitoring or specific, businesslike assistance.

The experience of the best inspector-pilots indicates that their work in the units provides the greatest effect only when they have an opportunity to take part in organizing and conducting the flight section in the full cycle from the beginning of its planning up to the critique of flights. Only then is the representative of higher headquarters capable of making the correct decision and soundly demanding full observance of planning table discipline.

6904

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NAVAL FORCES

ADM SMIRNOV ON NAVY DAY

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 28 Jul 85 p 3

[Interview with Flt Adm Nikolay Ivanovich Smirnov, first deputy CIC of the Navy, HSU, on the Occasion of 28 July, USSR Navy Day, by Capt 2d Rank D. Ilyuk; date and place not specified: "Today is USSR Navy Day: The Ocean Watch"]

[Text] On 28 July our country celebrates USSR Navy Day. On this holiday Soviet citizens honor the navymen, naval veterans, and workers of the shipbuilding and defense industry who are making warships and modern weapons for the Navy.

We requested First Deputy CIC of the Navy Flt Adm Nikolay Ivanovich Smirnov, HSU, to tell about the Navy.

[Question] Comrade Fleet Admiral, an important feature of the present Navy Day is the fact that it is being celebrated in the year of the 40th anniversary of the Great Victory. Please tell us about navymen's contribution to the defeat of fascist German invaders and Japanese militarists.

[Answer] The Soviet Navy conducted vigorous combat actions from the first to the last day of the war. Naval forces reliably secured the Red Army's strategic coastal flanks and actively assisted the fronts and armies in the defeat of enemy coastal groupings by fire assaults from the sea and by landing assault forces. The Navy successfully accomplished the missions of independent operation to disrupt enemy sea lines of communication.

It is commonly known that the navymen fought staunchly and courageously not just at sea, but on the land as well. Naval brigades defeated the enemy at Kiev, Staraya Russa, Moscow, Leningrad, Stalingrad and the Caucasus passes... Pacific Fleet and Red Banner Amur Flotilla personnel made a substantial contribution to the defeat of militarist Japan.

The party and government highly esteemed the navymen's combat actions and exploits.

Over 350,000 of them were decorated with orders and medals during the war years and more than 500 became Heroes of the Soviet Union.

I would like to cite the following figures as well. During the war our Navy destroyed over 2,500 enemy warships, auxiliary vessels and transports and landed more than 100 amphibious assault forces with an overall size of more than 250,000 persons with equipment and weapons, which consists of approximately 30 divisions. The Soviet navymen prevented the fascists from making a single landing.

[Question] How are the navymen preparing for the 27th party congress?

[Answer] Today competition for a worthy greeting to the 27th party congress permeates all the life and combat training of naval personnel. Now, when the summer training period is in full swing, the competition is aimed at achieving successful accomplishment of all operational training missions, increasing the effectiveness of missile, torpedo and gun firings and other firing exercises even more, and raising the discipline, efficiency and combat readiness of all ships, units and subunits.

The guided missile cruiser "Slava," initiator of this competition in the Navy, is among the competition leaders. The vanguard role of party members in the struggle for high military work indicators is clearly evident in the example of this ship's crew. All CPSU members and candidate members here are rated specialists or masters of military affairs. All shipboard subunits headed by party members received only good or outstanding grades based on results of the winter training period.

The ASW cruiser "Kiev" is giving a worthy report to the Motherland in honor of USSR Navy Day. Her crew recently returned from a lengthy deployment after receiving an outstanding grade for actions on the cruise. That is how the navymen of this air-capable ship responded to the Motherland's highest award, the Order of Red Banner (the cruiser received it for successes in combat and political training and in connection with the 40th anniversary of the Great Victory).

The Order of Red Star was presented to a unit of landing ships commanded by Capt 2d Rank A. Zadorin. It has been the best in the Navy in landing training for five years in a row now.

The personnel of a guards air unit of the Red Banner Black Sea Fleet invariably achieve high success. During the war years 11 of this unit's alumni became Heroes of the Soviet Union and several hundred received orders and medals. The unit recently was presented with an order by ukase of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

The crews of the nuclear-powered guided missile cruiser "Kirov," the submarine where Capt 1st Rank V. Nikolayevskiy is the commander, the guards large ASW ship "Krasnyy Kavkaz" and others are accomplishing their missions successfully.

[Question] How is the present generation of Soviet navymen continuing and multiplying naval combat traditions?

[Answer] Propaganda of our Army and Navy's combat traditions serves as an effective means of bringing up new generations of the Motherland's defenders.

Today's servicemen, the sons and grandsons of Great Patriotic War heroes, are unshakable in their communist ideological conviction and always are ready for an exploit for the sake of the Motherland. That is how they were raised by the party and the Komsomol, and that is how commanders and political workers are bringing them up in the course of daily combat and political training.

Allegiance to grand naval traditions and the navy's profound understanding of their patriotic and international duty is displayed especially vividly in the difficult ocean deployments. In the ocean NATO ships and aircraft maneuver in dangerous proximity to our ships.

While staunchly overcoming these difficulties on the deployments, the navy is learning to fight in a modern way, they are persistently increasing professional expertise and schooling, and they are acquiring and conditioning the necessary combat and moral-psychological qualities.

[Question] You already stated that our ships have to perform missions in the immediate vicinity of NATO ships. Please tell us about today's situation on the world ocean in somewhat more detail.

[Answer] Some in the West are trying to frighten the world public with the Soviet Navy's development and with the fact that any points on the world ocean have become accessible to the Soviet Navy.

The fact that these points have been accessible to us for a long while is true, and we don't conceal this from anyone. Our ships are on the distant ocean latitudes only to defend our Motherland there against imperialist aggression from the ocean and to defend peace on Earth.

The world knows that the more than 150 naval and air bases and facilities located on foreign territories allow the Pentagon to deploy and service major naval and U.S. naval aviation forces in practically all areas immediately adjoining the territory of countries of the socialist community. The fact is that this is a Navy which has been used in local wars for some 200 times already in postwar times, including in the bloody piracy in Korea and Vietnam and in the aggression against Grenada and Lebanon. Today it is given a place in plans of aggression against Nicaragua being drawn up by Washington.

American aircraft carriers with nuclear weapon platforms aboard, nuclear-powered missile submarines, and groupings of surface combatant ships are constantly operating in the Northeast Atlantic and the Norwegian Sea, near the shores of the Near East, and in the Pacific and Indian oceans.

This is why our party and our people are showing constant concern for the safety of the Motherland's maritime frontiers.

[Question] It is common knowledge that nuclear-powered submarines are the principal striking force of our Navy. What can you say about these ships?

[Answer] These are the most advanced and most powerful combatant ships. They concentrate very sophisticated kinds of weapons and machinery and the latest achievements of scientific and technical thinking. They are armed with long-range missiles and homing torpedoes and are outfitted with modern means of surveillance and target acquisition. This allows them to hit not only naval targets from long ranges, but also facilities located on shore and in the enemy rear.

In contrast to diesel submarines, there are practically no problems involving a fuel reserve for nuclear-powered submarines. They do not have to surface to charge storage batteries or extend special devices for air intake during diesel engine operation, as was previously the case and which greatly revealed the submarine. The nuclear engine rid them of all this.

The present-day naval missile-armed and ASW aviation opened up new opportunities for increasing the Navy's combat might. Naval pilots operate skillfully and courageously both from ground airfields and from the limited space of ships' decks. Our modern guided missile cruisers, large ASW ships and destroyers confidently plow the ocean expanses in performing difficult missions. Naval landing personnel and naval infantrymen have first-rate equipment.

But the Navy's wonderful personnel are its principal force and chief pride. The equipment in itself would mean little without the fervent hearts and skilled, expert hands of our seamen, petty officers, officers and admirals.

The entire system of navymen's training and indoctrination is aimed at having them become genuine masters of military affairs capable of achieving assigned goals under any conditions.

[Question] What would be your wishes for the instructors and teachers of DOSAAF naval schools?

[Answer] Many DOSAAF students come into the Navy in each call-up. As a rule the commanders have good comments about their training. The former cadets quickly join in the strenuous rhythm of naval service, they become rated specialists in short time periods and they cope excellently with duties at battle stations.

And so above all, I would like to take advantage of the occasion to express the warmest and most sincere thanks for this to the instructors, masters and teachers of DOSAAF naval schools, air clubs and other organizations. I have one wish for them: to continue to arm our young people with firm military and technical knowledge and to instil in the future servicemen a feeling of love for the Motherland, the Army and the Navy, vigilance toward the intrigues of the class enemy, and readiness to perform military duty honorably and conscientiously.

6904
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NAVAL FORCES

REVIEW: ISAKOV ON OCEANOGRAPHY, GEOGRAPHY, MILITARY HISTORY

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 1 Aug 85 p 2

[Review by Col N. Chaldymov, doctor of philosophical sciences, professor, of book "Izbrannyye trudy. Okeanologiya, geografiya i voyennaya istoriya" [Selected Works: Oceanology, Geography and Military History] by Ivan Stepanovich Isakov, Izdatelstvo "Nauka," 1984, 584 pages, under the rubric "Notes About Books": "Scientific Heritage of a Naval Leader"]

[Text] Ivan Stepanovich Isakov (1894-1967), a prominent Soviet naval leader, major scientist and writer, is the author of numerous works published in the Soviet and foreign press. Isakov's scientific creativeness embraces a wide range of problems: historical, political, economic, military and geographic. The recently published selected works of the naval leader on the naval art, naval history, oceanology, naval geography and military publicism are of unquestionable interest. The Soviet reader received a useful book thanks to the efforts of a group of compilers and an editorial board headed by responsible editor Flt Adm N. Sergeyev. The high scientific nature, simplicity and popular nature of exposition make it accessible for a broad reading audience. The author's emotional attitude toward the events in question, which gives the book a special attractive force, is clearly displayed in the content of works and articles which are represented.

The author graphically shows how, during the Civil and Great Patriotic wars, Soviet naval leaders and navymen multiplied and developed the best combat traditions of the Russian Navy connected with the names of admirals F. Ushakov and P. Nakhimov.

Works devoted to the history of World War II and the Soviet Navy's role in the Great Patriotic War occupy the principal place in the selected works of USSR AN [Academy of Sciences] Corresponding Member Flt Adm SU I. Isakov.

The Soviet Navy entered the war having a rather orderly and fully contemporary theory of the naval art, which considerably outstripped bourgeois naval theories in the prewar and war years. Much credit for this goes to Isakov's military-theoretical activity. He convincingly shows in his works that our Navy's successful actions in the first period of the war disrupted plans of the German command aimed at a blockade of the Navy's ships with their subsequent destruction, aided by aviation, and capture of bases from the land. The task of

supporting German sea lines of communication began to grow into a major task as a result of this, unexpectedly for the Germans and despite their wishes. The enemy did not once venture to penetrate our sea positions or dare to attack a single one of our naval bases from the sea. The fascists made only two attempts at landing an assault force during the war. Both of them were carried out in the Baltic Sea and suffered total failure.

The major work "Voyenno-Morskoy Flot SSSR v Velikoy Otechestvennoy voyne" [The USSR Navy in the Great Patriotic War], which is part of this publication, not only provides a brief operational-strategic review of the Great Patriotic War from the standpoint of the employment of naval forces in all theaters of the Soviet-German front, but also makes important fundamental generalizations. Our Navy honorably performed the mission of supporting the Red Army's strategic flanks against attack. Our Navy did not allow the enemy to attack our Army's flank from the sea in a single theater of military operations. At the very same time, our ships delivered many strikes against the flank and rear of the enemy troop groupings. Amphibious landing operations were constantly made during the war and missions to disrupt enemy sea lines of communication were successfully accomplished. The Navy's vigorous actions pinned considerable enemy forces to the coast and actually immobilized them, thus facilitating actions by our ground forces. Naval battalions, regiments and brigades participated not only in the heroic defense of our naval bases, but also in the fighting at Moscow and Stalingrad.

In a foreword to the American publication of "War Campaign in the Pacific," in the article "American Falsifiers of Naval History" and other works, Isakov deeply reveals the antisoviet nature of bourgeois publications about World War II and the postwar development of the Soviet Navy. By resorting to omission, misinformation and slander, bourgeois authors attempt to distort the innovative nature of the Russian Navy's conduct of naval engagements and they distort and belittle the Soviet Navy's role in the Civil War and especially in World War II.

The author precisely formulates the principal provisions of bourgeois falsifications, shows their reasons and purpose, and goes into their groundlessness point by point in a well-reasoned, knowledgeable manner, forming a clear impression in the reader as to the true state of affairs.

The book contains a number of Isakov's studies on various problems of military science, including studies on submarine operations based on World War I experience, on naval landing operations, and on development trends in the defense of naval bases and coastal fortresses.

Isakov's scientific works retain their current nature. They serve the cause of strengthening the defensive capability of our state and countries of the socialist community, the development of naval theory, and military-patriotic indoctrination of Soviet citizens.

DOSAAF

SOVETSKIY PATRIOT INSTITUTES RAID FEATURE ON TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 28 Jul 85 p 2

[Article by raid team V. Prokin, secretary of Yaroslavl Komsomol Obkom; A. Yershov, inspector of oblast people's control committee; and SOVETSKIY PATRIOT special correspondent V. Sorokin under the rubric "Operation 'Trainer'": "Flight Success is Forged on the Ground"]

[Text] The party is advancing a cardinal acceleration of scientific-technical progress to the foreground as the principal strategic factor for intensification of the national economy and for best use of accumulated potential. The April 1985 CPSU Central Committee Plenum spoke of the need to shift to fundamentally new technological systems and to the technology of the latest generations providing maximum effectiveness.

Today the newspaper SOVETSKIY PATRIOT begins a raid under the motto "Operation 'Trainer'." Its objective is to step up the further struggle for a thrifty attitude toward technical training resources, for their competent operation, and for introduction of the latest technical achievements to the training and indoctrination process.

Flying is underway at the Yaroslavl DOSAAF Air Club. MI-2 helicopters take off, gain altitude and circle the airfield. Just one machine situated a bit to one side seemingly awaits its turn, but it never does take off. Meanwhile, cadets would board the helicopter now and then.

The raid team decided to inquire into just what kind of apparatus this was. It turned out to be an ordinary helicopter (it was explained to us that the engine could be started and one could take off this very minute), but the machine is being used just as a simulator. Instructor V. Yashin is teaching his students to fly. Cadet Oleg Shchepetkin is sitting at the controls in the left seat and the other four cadets are behind him. A place also was found for us.

"Prepare engine for start!" commanded the instructor-pilot-methods specialist (that is what Yashin's position is officially called). Oleg performed all necessary actions and as he did so told what instrument readings should be at low,

rated and take-off power settings and the procedure for shutting down the engines.

From time to time the instructor would call out the name of a cadet sitting in the rear cabin and give him a narrative problem.

"Cadet Afanasyev! Engine failure at 100 m altitude. Your actions?"

"Pitch-gas control downward to keep main rotor engine rpm above 79 percent, and RUD upward (RUD is the engine control throttle)."

"Why the RUD upward?" said the instructor, asking an additional question.

"To increase the power of the operating engine."

"Correct."

Such a practice before flight operations is of course beneficial. The cadets not only practice the procedure for starting and shutting down engines, but also learn actions in special instances when reaction speed and decisiveness are required.

But using a helicopter as a trainer is too costly a pleasure. You will agree with this. The endless pressing on various buttons and shifting of controls can in the end affect the machine's technical condition.

The supplying plant which manufactures the MI-2 also puts out a trainer cockpit, but it goes to aviation training organizations "dumb," merely with drawings of instruments. Such a trainer was "brought to life" in Yaroslavl, for example, by installing real instruments in it. It is true that classes in it take place only in the training building located in the city, while there is no such trainer cockpit at the airfield and so it is necessary to use a full-fledged machine for this purpose. Isn't this extravagant?

Air club chief A. Karakotin explained that a trainer classroom now is being built onto the air traffic control point using their own resources. As a matter of fact we did see the walls, but there is not yet a ceiling, roof or floor. We learned that as soon as the room is ready the very same cockpit, only with genuine instruments, will be placed in it.

The fact is, however, that this is not yet the trainer it should be. One is needed which would create the illusion of flight so that the ground rushes toward one during an aircraft-type take-off and the machine's attitude is constantly sensed in the air: whether it is climbing, turning, in horizontal flight, descending or, finally, making a landing. You will agree that in this case the training effect will be much greater.

But there are no aviation trainers which would simulate flight in the MI-2 although sportsmen of many air clubs are flying in these machines. Perhaps thought should be given to developing such training equipment. It is not simple to make and it will be costly, but in the final account it will pay for itself in our view.

For now training equipment, and we mean very simple trainers, has to be made with one's own resources. "One's own resources" doesn't mean at enterprises of the Defense Society. Almost nothing is manufactured there for outfitting aviation classrooms. All this is being done by the hands of skilled craftsmen directly in the training organizations. Vasiliy Afanasyevich Yashin, whom we already know, made several trainers which help practice actions in controlling the pitch-gas control and the tail rotor blades. V. Korolev, a former military pilot, did a rather good job outfitting a flight controller and flight safety classroom.

The raid team also visited the Andropov Air Sports Club (the chief is S. Teglev), where young people learn to fly in the YaK-52 aircraft and to make parachute jumps. There is simply no aircraft trainer which would simulate flight either in the city of Andropov or in other clubs, inasmuch as it is not being produced. The fact is, however, that there are many machines of this series. Thousands of boys and girls took off for the first time in the YaK-52. It would also be beneficial for them to begin mastering flying techniques while still on the ground. They would also gain skills in controlling an aircraft and they would save engine operating time and fuel.

It is bad that to this day no thought has been given to developing a trainer which would simulate flight in the machine most widespread in air clubs. It is time for this machine to have its own electronic prototype.

But since it doesn't exist, it is necessary to get by with the very same trainer cockpit for practicing initial skills, if only for now. But it too was absent both in the training building and at the airfield. Pilot-instructor-methods specialist Yu. Belyayev who was accompanying us referred to the fact that previously there had been a trainer cockpit when they were flying the YaK-12. When they shifted to the YaK-52 the instruments were removed from the cockpit and the cockpit was discarded as unnecessary.

"We don't have the material to make a cockpit," said Belyayev.

This reason can hardly be deemed convincing. It isn't a matter of materials, but of people. There are many innovators at the Andropov ASK [Aviation Sports Club]. Senior airfield technician M. Kalachikhin made a trainer for practicing actions in special instances. In collaboration with other innovators, he developed a device which helps cadets practice actions in lowering and retracting the landing gear and suggested a number of interesting trainer innovations in outfitting the flight controller and flight safety classroom. V. Nosok, deputy club chief for flying, made the "Cowling-Horizon" trainer. Using it, the instructors now show graphically how the aircraft nose should be visibly projected to the skyline during take-off, the climb, horizontal flight, gliding, and turns. The cadets themselves also practice placing the nose in the necessary position even in aerobatic figures. There is no question that there is obvious benefit from such classes.

We saw many sports trainers both at the Andropov and the Yaroslavl clubs: a training tower [trossovaya gorka], harness rigging, jump platforms to practice landing, safety nets, gymnastic wheels and trapeze swings. As it was explained to us,

some pieces of equipment had come from the plant and others had been made with their own resources. One of the devices which helps parachutists practice was sent to Yaroslavl from Star City at the request of Valentina Tereshkova, a graduate of the local air club.

Future flight begins on the ground, in aviation trainers, and its success depends on the quality of training.

6904

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2 October 1985

FOREIGN MILITARY AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

ALGERIAN AIR FORCE CHIEF SEEN OFF--Colonel Abdel Hamid (Abdelli), commander of the Air Force of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria, who has been in the USSR on an official visit at the invitation of Marshal of Aviation A. N. Yefimov, commander in chief of the Air Force and USSR deputy defense minister, left the Soviet Union 29 August. The guest from Algeria was seen off at the airport by Marshal of Aviation A. N. Yefimov and other generals and officers. The sendoff party included (Khuseyn Mussi), Algerian charge d'affaires ad interim in the USSR, and Lieutenant Colonel (Khadebi Rakhal), defense attache at the Algerian Embassy in the USSR. [Text]
[Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 30 Aug 85 Second Edition p 3 PM]

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AFGHANISTAN

PAKISTANI INSTRUCTORS SAID TO TRAIN GUERILLAS NEAR URGUN

Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 24 Jul 85 p 3

[Article: "They Aren't Stopping the Intervention"]

[Text] Kabul, 23 Jul (TASS)--New evidence of the unceasing undeclared war against democratic Afghanistan and Pakistan's continuing intervention in the DRA's internal affairs were presented at a press conference held here.

Agents of the Pakistani CID intelligence agency--Pakistanis (Sadzhed Khuseyn) and (Fazl-ur-Rakhman) and Afghan citizen (Musa) Kerim--who were caught red-handed by DRA security agencies, answered journalists' questions. They told about the training they took in espionage centers and camps on Pakistani territory.

Kerim was recruited by Pakistani services and underwent special sabotage training in one of the military camps in Peshawar, after which he was sent into Afghanistan with the assignment of stealing one of the aircraft of the Afghan Ariana Airlines Company. According to him, he received the assignment from General (Akhtar), one of the heads of Pakistani intelligence.

Another agent, (Khuseyn), admitted that he had been recruiting Afghans on Pakistani territory for bandit formations, he had illegally infiltrated into DRA territory and had collected information of a military nature. (Khuseyn) was accompanied by American military instructors headed for bands in the vicinity of Urgun on one such trip. He stated that he saw some 100 Pakistani military instructors there who not only were training members of a sabotage team, but were personally taking part in combat actions against government troops. In (Khuseyn's) words, there were British, Australian and other foreign military specialists in the vicinity of Urgun. He personally observed them teaching the "enemies" to handle surface-to-surface missiles.

Pakistani agent (Fazl-ur-Rakhman) was an instructor in one of the (Khales) bands which had taken part in the attack on Jalalabad during which the "enemies" killed 25 peaceful residents.

A statement of the Bakhtar Agency was read at the press conference. It stated in particular that the pro-imperialist Zia ul-Haq regime, operating on orders of American imperialism, is being drawn more and more deeply into the war

against revolutionary Afghanistan. There have been 120 centers for training bandits and saboteurs established on Pakistani territory. It was stated that Pakistan has been turned into the primary source of arms for the Afghan counterrevolution and a springboard for aggression and subversive actions against the DRA. The Pakistani CID intelligence service, operating under control of the CIA, is taking an active part in the interventionist war against Afghanistan. It is training, arming and sending counterrevolutionary bands into the DRA.

Press conference participants were shown samples of sabotage equipment captured from Pakistani spies and bands of the "enemies." Special attention was directed to a special remote device for setting off explosions which has an effective radius approaching 6 km.

The facts and exhibits presented at the press conference again exposed crimes of the Afghan counterrevolution and of forces waging war, including from Pakistani territory, against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

6904

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AFGHANISTAN

PRAVDA ON TACTICS OF DRA BORDER UNITS

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Aug 85 p 6

[Article by PRAVDA correspondent V. Baykov under the rubric "From an Afghan Notebook": "A Nervous Border"]

[Text] Kabul, Aug--We met the dawn at one of the airfields of the Afghan Air Forces. Lt (Akram) Osman, commander of a special border group, updated the upcoming route for the crews near a pair of helicopters ready for take-off:

"We are flying to Spinbuldak to deliver Soviet journalists there. Along the way take a left into the mountains--we have to inspect the Shinmaray Gorge. A report came in that an enemy caravan which arrived from beyond the cordon at night stopped there."

We settled ourselves in the lead machine among border personnel. All of them had submachineguns and wore camouflage suits. Their faces were calm and concentrated.

The helicopters soared into the air and set a course to the southeast, in the direction of the outline of a mountain ridge dark against the background of the sky. The helicopters pressed to the ground as they flew, for safety considerations. Frozen waves of sand dunes, rare green patches of oases, and domelike roofs of clay huts flashed by the window.

The lieutenant carefully inspected mountain spurs through powerful binoculars. In one place the spurs were cleaved by a narrow, deep crack as if from the blow of sabers. Then he touched the pilot's shoulder:

"I see three camouflaged vehicles on the bottom of the gorge. We'll make a landing here on the way back."

I recalled a conversation on the evening before in the border brigade headquarters. Brigade commander Col Abdul Jaffar was telling about the difficulties in securing state frontiers. The colonel said that the young republic was not yet in a position to cover them reliably as the border troops were still just being established. Moreover, the most troubled sector--the border with Pakistan--stretched for almost 2,000 km and passed over rugged relief, mostly in the mountains or deserts of Registan.

Counterrevolutionary bands which had dug in on Pakistani territory were constantly infiltrating through the as yet sparse network of border outposts. For this reason the most effective method of securing the border for now consisted of ambushes on caravan trails and raids by special teams of border personnel. Bold, resolute, physically fit lads are chosen for that. They usually catch the violators unawares by a swift maneuver, at times covering many kilometers through the mountains. The colonel cited the following figures: in the past year alone the brigade's border personnel set up 580 ambushes and made 294 raids. Five hundred sixty enemies were killed, much equipment was captured and contraband amounting to 33 million afghanis was confiscated...

And here was Spinbuldak, a small town of about 15,000, lost in the middle of the lifeless, sun-scorched land right near the Afghanistan-Pakistan border. Raising dense clouds of dust, the helicopters landed near an old clay fortress over which the DRA's tricolor flag was fluttering. The border outpost was located here. We bade a warm farewell to the group's fighting men and wished them good luck according to Russian custom, for it was possible they would be entering battle in a few minutes in the Shinnaray Gorge.

An old British tank, as indicated by the Model 1919 stamp embossed on the side, was lying still on its side right near the fortress.

In the fortress we were received by outpost commander Abdul Rauf and his political deputy Bakt Mohammad. We were treated to the cup of tea traditional in the East. The conversation began with our questions about the tank. Abdul Rauf explained that the fortress had withstood a siege by enemy troops during the third Anglo-Afghan war in May 1919. The tank knocked out near its walls now is taken not as a historical relic, but more as a symbol of the Afghan people's resolve to defend the inviolability of their territory.

"The local populace--the Nurzai, Achikzai, Hotak and other tribes--are of great help to the people's power in the struggle against the counterrevolution and in securing the state border," emphasized Abdul Rauf. "We also help the populace as best we can by sharing salt, kerosene and soap and handing out clothing to those in need of it. Our strength and the guarantee of our victory lies in unity with the people."

The conversation was interrupted by the appearance at the door of an old man with a snow-white turban on his head, a homespun jacket thrown over one shoulder and a long, dense, curly waist-length beard. The border personnel greeted him cordially and they sat him down at the table. The guest turned out to be (Khodzhi) Rustam, who was not only an elder of the Achikzai tribe, but also commander of a "malish" detachment--a combat formation of the local populace performing border guard duty. This unexpected visit was the best illustration of Abdul Rauf's words.

Spinbuldak translated means "white bag." The city owes its name to the ancient trade route from India to Europe on which it lies. The merchants who sent eastern fabrics to Europe would cover the rolls with white cloths here.

It stands to reason that the purpose of our trip here was not only interest in this town's past. We primarily wanted to become familiar with its present. The fact is that it is a gate on the southern sector of the border, as it were, through which Afghanistan maintains trade ties with the outer world by a traditional agreement with Pakistan, just as it does through Tor Kham in the east. A custom house and traffic control point operate here. The DRA government also encourages the development of border trade.

Recently, however, Pakistani authorities have been raising obstacles to normal barter. Tension also is growing on the border itself. Previously the neighboring state was used by the forces of imperialism to unleash an undeclared war against Afghanistan, primarily as a place for training counterrevolutionary bands sent onto Afghan territory and as a trumpet of enemy propaganda. Now Pakistan itself is resorting to armed provocations more and more often. Artillery and mortar rounds fly from its territory across the border onto the heads of peaceful Afghans.

For almost a year now the name of the small Afghan border settlement of Barikot has not left the pages of Kabul newspapers. Its bombardment from Pakistani territory has not ceased all this time despite repeated protests of the Afghan side.

The walls of many homes in Spinbuldak are riddled with bullet marks and first-floor windows of the customs house are sandbagged. Afghan customs officials cautiously inspect vehicles and cargoes and use special probes to check the contents of boxes and bales.

"Constant vigilance is required," says Gul Momad, who worked four years at the local customs house. "Repeated attempts have been made to take weapons and propaganda literature--pamphlets, newspapers and leaflets published by various counterrevolutionary organizations--from the other side of the cordon. The enemies also attempt to outwit us. Late last year, for example, we discovered nine bandits all at once in a hiding place arranged among boxes of fruit. Another two were discovered in the very same hiding place several days later. Quite recently we detained Said Mohammad, the head of one of the bandit gangs. He was trying to cross the border in women's clothing with a paranja on his head."

It is 3 km, the last kilometers of Afghan territory, from the city to Vesh. The border passes through the settlement, with some of the homes located on this side and the rest on the Pakistani side. The Pakistani flag flutters in a light breeze above a patrol tower some 200 m from us. There is a guarded silence. The eyepieces of binoculars flashed from the patrol tower on that side--we were being observed.

Traces of a recent bandit attack are still fresh in the settlement. The Afghan friends led us to a pile of ashes and twisted iron.

"There was a warehouse here," said Shok Mammed, the former warehouse guard, beginning his tale. "The bandits made their way here at night across the 'duval', attacked me and tied me up. They spoke among themselves in Urdu, and

this language is spoken only in Pakistan. Then they opened fire against a border post with submachineguns and rocket launchers. Before they went back home they burned down the warehouse, where tires, matches, dishes and refrigerators were being stored..."

Pvt Mohammad Nabi stood at his post near the border barrier. That night he had moved against the enemy in a common skirmish line. We are ready to rebuff any provocation, he said.

6904

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AFGHANISTAN

'COMPLEX' REVOLUTIONARY PROCESS IN AFGHANISTAN

LD041207 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 4 Sep 85

[Report by Afghan correspondent Boris Savodyan]

[Text] The revolutionary process in Afghanistan is a complex one. Those for whose sake the April Revolution was carried out 7 years ago not infrequently turn out to be among the ranks of the bandits.

The people's authorities are not vindictive toward those who yesterday fought against them, who become aware of their serious errors today. The voluntary units of defenders of the revolution are, in numerous cases, formed of those who had earlier belonged to the bandit units and who surrendered to the Afghan authorities. I had a conversation in Kabul with (Arbab Sayd Muhammad), commander of one such unit in the Herat district of Enjil:

[Begin recording in vernacular with superimposed Russian translation] (Arbab Sayd Muhammad) says that he decided to go over to the side of the revolution 5 years ago, together with 200 of his men. We saw that, despite huge difficulties, the cause of the revolution was gradually beginning to get the upper hand, finding ever greater response in the hearts of the people. We came to understand that we were fighting for the wrong cause. The amnesty decree for those who voluntarily laid down their arms, passed by the Afghan authorities, made it possible for us to go over to the side of the revolution which had been carried out in our interests and which gave ordinary people land, seeds, fertilizers and agricultural machinery.

We have now become convinced, continues (Arbab Sayd Muhammad), that no one threatens Islam in Afghanistan. The doors of mosques are always open to the faithful. The doors close only when mosques become the target and victim of the enemy's subversive operations, as has happened in our province, where bandits laid a mine in the main Qeshlak-e Poshpar Mosque. Five people lost their lives there. Nor was that an isolated incident. Recently bandits from the so-called Islamic Society of Afghanistan attacked one of our villages. They were accompanied by American and West German instructors. They photographed the aftermath of this bandit raid in order to present it as evidence of atrocities allegedly committed by the government and Soviet soldiers.

Were it not for the instigatory activities of certain foreign states and their financial, military and propaganda aid for the bandits, our people would long ago have chased them from our soil, (Arbab Sayd Muhammad) concluded. [end recording]

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AFGHANISTAN

MOSCOW TV REPORTS EXPLOSION NEAR MAZAR-E SHARIF MOSQUE

LD152032 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 15 Aug 85

[From the Vremya newscast; M. Leshchinskiy video report]

[Text] Kabul--The BAKHTAR agency reports that two more Dushman bands operating under direct orders from foreign centers of subversion have been routed by the Afghan Armed Forces in Herat and Nangarhar Provinces. Large quantities of Western manufactured arms, ammunition and documents testifying to the Dushmans' links with foreign special services were seized from the bandits.

[Leshchinskiy] The Blue Mosque in the middle of the town of Mazar-e Sharif in northern Afghanistan is well known throughout the Muslim world. Every day pilgrims come from every corner of it, to this ancient beauty, to the white doves which have lived here from time immemorial--a symbol of peace and tranquility. [video shows Leshchinskiy in square in front of mosque]

But on Afghan territory there is no peace. Only a couple of paces from here, in a private hotel on a summer's evening an explosion rang out. And this is what the people saw when the dust settled and the smoke cleared: ruins, and the maimed bodies of dozens of women, old men, children--civilians guilty of nothing. [video shows ruined building, stills of injured people]

What lies behind this bloody new crime against humanity, which has defiled a place sacred to all Muslims? The answer to this question has come from some bandits disarmed by the security organs. [video shows row of nine prisoners seated, under guard at trial. A seated audience is looking on] The operation was planned in one of the Dushman camps on Pakistani territory, on the direct orders of French instructors. And the antitank mine placed in the building was of West German manufacture.

This is one of the killers, Mohammad Ashraf. [video shows closeup of one of the prisoners] To the question, did he know that he was killing women, children, and old people, he replied that he did not. The instructors supposedly just told him to put the thing in the building, and that was all. Here you have them, these fighters for freedom and Islam, as Western propaganda calls them. [video shows prisoners, court officials, and man in suit speaking into microphone] These nine renegades have been tried by the

people themselves, and the death sentence was passed on them in the name of fathers, mothers, widows, and orphans.

Before this court of law those who prepared and paid for the latest crime did not appear. But sentence has long since been passed on them too, by the indignant conscience of the Afghan people, who demand that this barbaric undeclared war be ended.

CSO: 1801/315

AFGHANISTAN

BRIEFS

TERRORISTS, SABOTEURS 'LIQUIDATED'--Kabul, 3 Sep (TASS)--DRA security forces, with the active support of the populace and units for the defense of the revolution, are continuing to liquidate bands of mercenaries being sent into the territory of Afghanistan from neighboring countries. BAKHTAR agency reports that successful operations against the dushmans have been mounted in the provinces of Lowgar, Herat and Takhar. Tens of terrorists and saboteurs have been destroyed, and a large quantity of firearms of Western manufacture have been seized. In the province of Badghis, a group of 300 people, with all their weapons, surrendered themselves to the side of people's power. [Text] [Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0835 GMT 3 Sep 85 LD]

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